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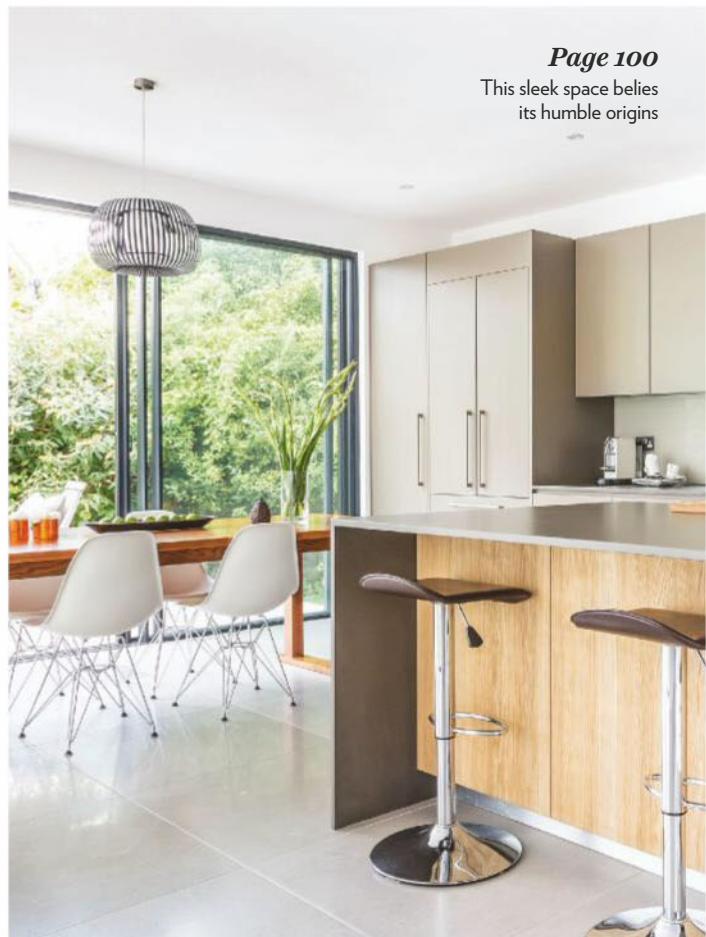
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- Dryer
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Professional
design can really
make a scheme



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Embrace the summer
by blending indoor
and outdoor living

On the cover



This issue's star kitchen is young at heart, taking its inspiration from a legendary nightclub and playing with bright tones. See page 21

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Page 116

You'll eat up these
stylish dining tables



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GO BACK JUST 20 YEARS AND you'd be hard pushed to find anyone excited to be stuck in the kitchen come summer. How things have changed. Now, the season equals Christmas as a final deadline that cannot be shifted – the kitchen simply has to be finished by summer, in time for the indoor/outdoor entertaining and open-plan living we all yearn for. This issue's case study owners are certainly living that dream.

From Guy and Caroline Collins'

original extension idea, which blurs the boundaries with real aplomb (page 21), to Paul Taylor's clever design that transformed the whole ground floor of his home into a welcoming space in which to cook, work, live and entertain (page 55). Decorating an open-plan space can prove a challenge, as it's quite unlike any other room. With that in mind, we've put together some key ideas on page 94. There are great looks for the all-important island on page 72, planning advice to get the best from your architect and designer (page 66), and handy buyer's guides to built-in cooking (page 79) and instant hot-water taps (page 84). I hope you'll find plenty of ideas for all aspects of your scheme on the following pages, and that your new kitchen will provide many blissful summers in the years to come.

Helen
HELEN STONE EDITOR

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This kitchen by Cue & Co is the Waldemar, a handleless design shown here spray-painted in All White estate eggshell by Farrow & Ball and with oak splashback and Corian worktop. Kitchens are built to order in the west London workshop, starting at £35,000



GETTING STARTED

Buying a new kitchen can be a daunting prospect.
From choosing the right style to finding a designer and developing a layout, there's a lot to take on board.
Breaking it into small, manageable steps will make the process easier – consider it a journey, and give each stage all the time and care it needs

1 LOOK AT THE SPACE Do you simply want a place to prepare meals, or are you after an open-plan living area with enough room for a dining zone, and perhaps a snug, too? Is entertaining at the top of your list, or do you mainly use the space to rustle up family dinners? How much storage do you need? Have a good clear-out and get rid of anything you no longer use – be ruthless. Also, note down which aspects of your current kitchen work for you and those that don't.

3 THE FUN PART Collect images that inspire you. Tear pages from magazines, scour kitchen company websites and use sharing sites such as Pinterest. Treasured objects, well-loved artworks or favourite pieces of furniture can be a great starting point for a theme or colour scheme. Don't worry about what you can and can't afford at this stage – it's all about honing your style. Visuals are an easy way to share ideas with your family and kitchen designer.

6 SET YOUR BUDGET Be honest about your finances from the outset so that your designer can gauge where to invest and where to save. Ways to make a small budget stretch further include open shelving and generous pull-out storage – both cut down on the number of units you need to buy. When it comes to appliances, think about what you really use, and don't forget to budget for professional services such as a Gas Safe fitter, electrician or a tiler.

'A GOOD DESIGNER WILL FULFIL THE POTENTIAL OF YOUR KITCHEN AND ENSURE THE LAYOUT WORKS PERFECTLY'

2 MAKE A WISH LIST Nail those must-haves; whether it's sleek Corian worktops, plenty of storage, or a statement island, have a clear idea of what you want. What type of cooker are you after, and with which functions? Which other appliances can't you live without? Make sure you've really got to grips with what you need and want before you even set foot in the showroom. The more information you can give, the better your design will be.



4 FIND A GOOD KITCHEN COMPANY Flicking through magazines is a great way to find kitchen companies working across all budgets. Look at designer/retailer websites, too, as most have portfolios of previous projects – you'll find a handy list on our blog, Kitchensourcebook.co.uk. And, of course, pop into nearby showrooms. Word of mouth is still a great way to find a reliable company, with the certainty that the service has lived up to expectation.

5 DESIGNER TOUCH To get the best from your new kitchen, call in a professional, be that a kitchen designer, interior designer or architect. Never underestimate what a trained eye can bring. As well as years of experience, ideas and know-how, they'll be able to offer solutions you won't have thought of. Add to this up-to-date knowledge of products, fixtures and fittings, plus the ability to source everything on your behalf, often getting good deals.

7 ENJOY THE PROCESS Once you've chosen your kitchen and found a designer who shares your vision, you're well on the way to creating a dream kitchen, so enjoy the next phase of fine-tuning the design. Most companies produce CAD drawings, which give a good idea of how the design will look, and this is the time to discuss worktops, sinks, taps, splashbacks and flooring. Proficient designers will be able to help with ideas for materials beyond the cabinetry.

8 FITTING AND SERVICES Shoddy workmanship can ruin a kitchen but decent installation will ensure even inexpensive units look amazing. Ask friends and family for recommendations, or go through a registered trade association, such as the Federation of Master Builders (fmb.org.uk). Larger projects may require planning permission or building regulations approval. Visit the website planningportal.gov.uk for useful advice.

9 COUNTDOWN TO COMPLETION Unfortunately, refitting such an important part of your home comes with a certain amount of upheaval. A professional kitchen company will ensure the process is quick and as painless as possible, but it's worth having a contingency plan. Set up a basic cook station along with vital provisions elsewhere in the house. Plan to be away for the most disruptive stages, and try to relax and look forward to what's to come.

10 FINISHING TOUCHES The last additions are what make your kitchen your own. Add in an accent colour via striking accessories, subtly linking finishes – for instance, pair a timber breakfast bar with wooden stools, or upholster the seats with fabric that ties in with your splashback. Little details, such as your choice of handles, and artworks on the walls, can transform a scheme and add real personality.



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OBJECTS OF BEAUTY

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All hung up.

These quirky Nippig hooks are great value and can be used to keep aprons and tea towels in order, £2 each, Ikea



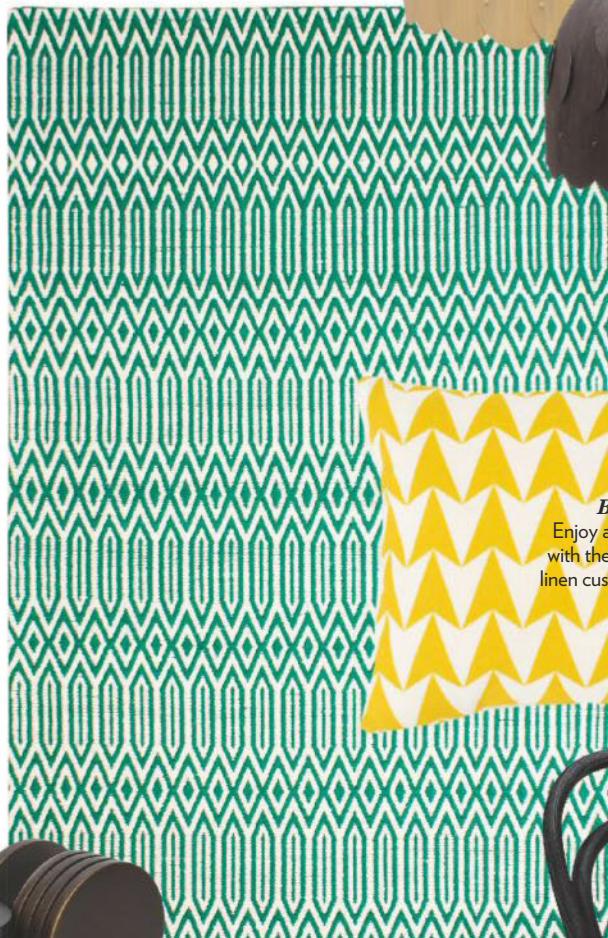
Weathered-look walls.

Bring a chic restaurant feel to your kitchen with this Point de Hongrie cream-tinted reclaimed wall boarding, £70sq m, Bert & May



For an Art-Deco feel.

These beautifully sturdy Ringed Mortice door handles are available in dark bronze or a burnished antique brass finish, £495 per pair, Henry Blake Hardware



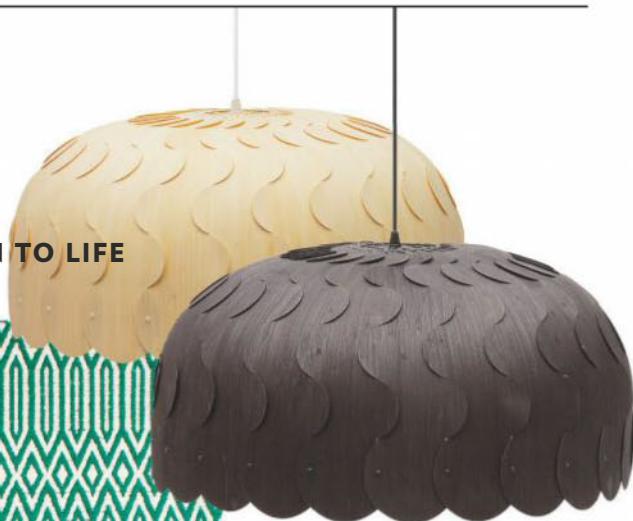
Tribal-inspired.

The graphic design of the Serengeti rug has its roots in animal prints, wool, W120 x L170cm, £135, Barker & Stonehouse



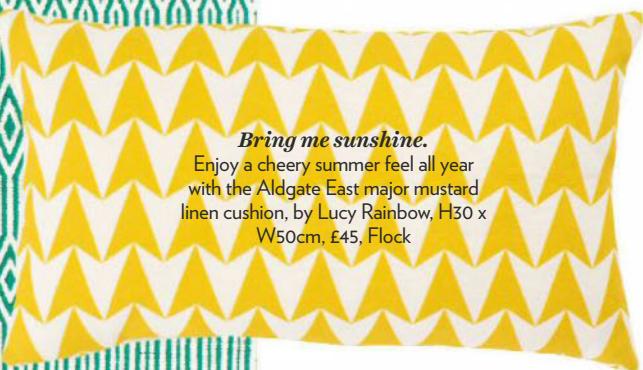
Statement sideboard.

With its diagonal chevron print, the Stanford cuts a sophisticated dash, H65 x W150 x D50cm, £999, Content by Terence Conran



A shade different.

The striking Beau pendant is crafted from sustainable bamboo ply, H28 x D60cm, from £390, David Trubridge Design at Holloways of Ludlow



Bring me sunshine.

Enjoy a cheery summer feel all year with the Aldgate East major mustard linen cushion, by Lucy Rainbow, H30 x W50cm, £45, Flock



Iconic style.

The bentwood Vienna coffee house 214 chair is available in new German ash and vegetable tanned leather finishes, H84 x W43 x D52cm, from £528, Aram

KITCHEN ESSENTIALS

THE LATEST LOOKS FOR CABINETS, TAPS AND SURFACES



SIMPLY DEVINE

Tom Howley has launched its eighth showroom, in Chelsea, which showcases two of the company's most popular designs, as well as the brand-new Devine scheme. Handpainted in Sorrel, Devine boasts dark oak-veneer cabinetry with polished nickel knobs, while the Harrington design is equipped with a unique 4.3m-long island. Kitchens from £35,000. 72 Fulham Road, London SW3 6HH, 020 7584 1218, tomhowley.co.uk

WINNING DESIGN

The Lucet tap from Caple has a colour-changing LED to indicate temperature. Available in a polished chrome finish, the single-control design measures H430 x 230mm and costs £1,099, 0117 938 1900, caple.co.uk



INDUSTRIAL EDGE

Quartz manufacturer Caesarstone's Concrete Series has two additions to its range – Raw Concrete and the paler Fresh Concrete. From £300sq m, 01706 863600, caesarstone.co.uk

Out on the tiles

Easy to install and virtually maintenance-free, the new range of 20mm-thick porcelain outdoor tiles from SACW are a smart choice for any patio area. Featuring realistic wood- and stone-effect finishes that will work with any alfresco scheme, the tiles are resistant to chemicals, frost and stains. From £71.40sq m, sacwpaving.co.uk



BESPOKE BEAUTY

British handmade furniture company Lewis Alderson has opened its first kitchen showroom, laid out to resemble the ground floor of a country house. All kitchens are bespoke, from £30,000. The Lodge, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire RG27 8NY, 0845 474 0854, lewisalderson.com





Finishing touches

Gamadecor, the kitchen arm of Porcelanosa, has introduced a range of schemes in six stylish and practical finishes. Choose from smooth or textured laminates, matt or high-shine laminates or lacquers, or natural wood. With anti-scratch to water- and heat-resistant properties, all will stand up to the rigours of a busy, modern kitchen. Schemes from £40,000. 0844 481 8959, porcelanosa.com



BOXING CLEVER

Good organisation is key, and Leicht's Q-Box range of independent inserts keeps everything tidy, from utensils to wine bottles and spices. Made from oak and black carbon, and available in all standard depths, these sturdy removable trays feature non-slip mats and wooden rods to hold plates in place. Kitchens from £15,000, leicht.com

FLOOR SHOW

Made from frost-proof porcelain, so they can be used indoors and out, these Mate floor tiles by Surface come in standard squares and rectangles as well as chevron parquet and unusual hexagon formats, giving a great choice of looks. Choose from a marble- or concrete-effect finish, with the option of combining the two for an extra design dimension. The Terra Fumo chevron style here offers a contemporary take on the classic parquet floor. From £76.40sq m, 020 7354 7000, surfacetiles.com



FEATURE MAXINE CLARKE, SALLY DOMINIC, JENNIE FILER, ALIX O'NEILL



MADE TO ORDER

Smallbone of Devizes understands the importance of good storage, as its bespoke larders demonstrate. It's all in the detail, with quality features such as willow baskets, pull-out trays, spice racks, custom china stores, granite worktops, sinks and even refrigerators. Larger designs can accommodate the same quantity of provisions as eight wall cabinets. Kitchens from £40,000, 020 7589 5998, smallbone.co.uk

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All rounder

Miele's WMV 960WPS Prestige washing machine has 26 specialist programs to take good care of your clothes. Top features include an AllergoWash to improve hygiene, targeted stain-removal action and a Quick PowerWash setting that can complete a full A-rated wash in just an hour. It's quiet, too, and scores well with an A+++ 40% energy rating. £1,999, 0330 160 6600, miele.co.uk



FAN CLUB

Franke's Maris T-shape extractor has pioneering anti-condensation technology that prevents water droplets forming on its underside. The A-rated appliance is energy efficient, has four operating speeds, a cut-off timer, remote control and filter-saturation indicator. Available as a wall-mounted design, £1,750, or an island extractor, £2,099, 0161 436 6280, franke.co.uk



THOROUGHLY MODERN

New from the masters of French range cooking, the Lacanche Moderne marks a departure with its modern looks, yet it still offers the usual stellar performance, attention to detail and the same built-to-order quality. Have it configured to the way you cook, with a chargrill, fryers, metal plates, induction hob and additional burners, and choose from 29 enamel shades, plus bespoke colour options. This three-oven design in Provencal Yellow costs £4,400, 01202 733011, lacanchemoderne.co.uk



PERFECT MIX

The Magimix name is synonymous with food processing but the brand has moved into baking with the Patissier Multifunction mixer. Specially designed to beat, whip, knead and whisk its way through all your baking tasks, it also comes with a range of stainless steel tools that slice, grate and chop so it fulfils the function of a standard food processor, too. From £500, John Lewis, 0345 604 9049, johnlewis.com

GOOD SENSE

Reducing energy consumption and cooking time by up to 50%, Whirlpool's AKZM 8790/IX 6th Sense induction oven is a must for time-pressed home cooks. The stylish stainless steel design boasts clever features, including Cook3, which heats three different dishes at once. This 73-litre-cavity appliance costs around £999, 0334 815 8989, whirlpool.co.uk



Candy crush

Combining sleek design and state-of-the-art technology, not to mention great green credentials, the easy-to-clean CI 640CBA hob by Candy, £326, has four induction zones, one booster zone and micro-computerised controls for even heat distribution. It boasts less than half the energy consumption of a standard induction hob and comes with a 13-amp plug, saving the cost of an electrician, 01685 721222, candy-domestic.co.uk





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Feature SERENA FOKSCHANER Photography EMMA LEWIS



'The way you use a home as a family changes, so living here for a few years really helped us to work out how best to design a space to last for a long time'



Project profile

THE OWNERS Caroline Collins, who works in PR, husband Guy, an events designer, and their son Arthur, 6

THEIR HOME A 1940s three-bedroom terraced house in west London

THE PROJECT The existing kitchen was extended at the side and back to include a glass-paned side return and pivot door leading to the garden

ROOM SIZE 6 x 4.5m

DESIGNER Jon Hamilton-King

CABINETRY Bespoke oak units with ply doors by Hamilton King. Kitchens start from around £35,000

BUDGET Around £38,000, excluding building work

Open to change

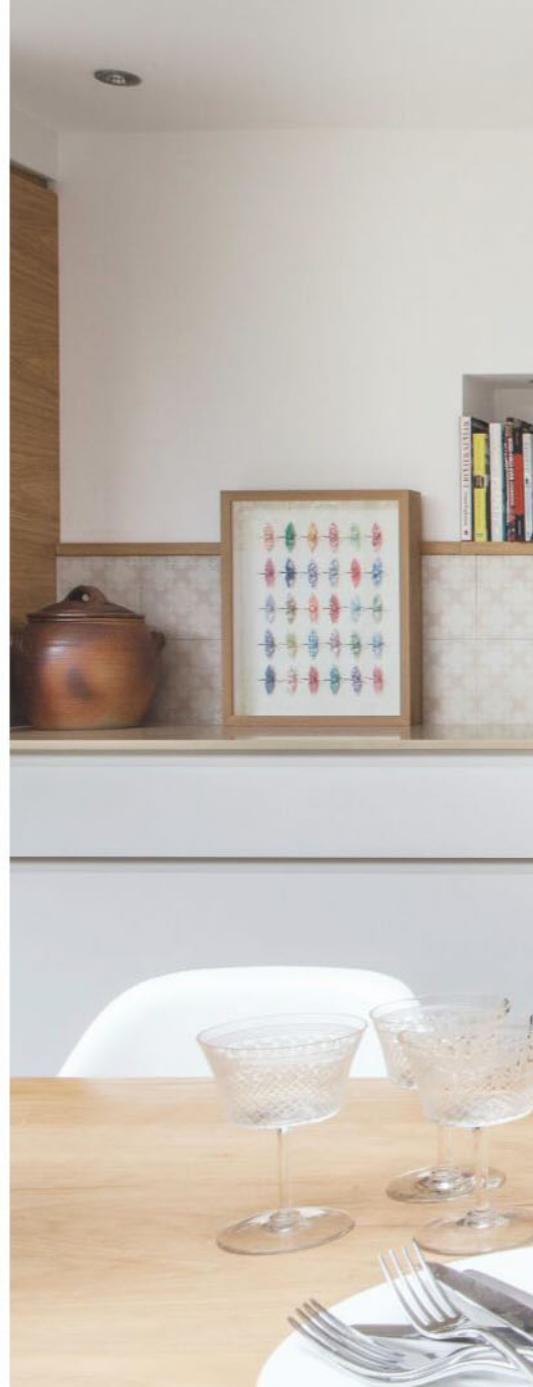
This bright and spacious room was originally a third smaller before a windowed wall was removed at the back and an attractive glass-box extension was added

When we first bought our house, we were on a tight budget, so we built a small side return and added an L-shaped kitchen,' says Guy Collins. Fast-forward to 2012, and Guy and his wife Caroline were looking to improve again. 'We had the money to do something great and redress the mistakes we'd made before,' he adds. 'I wanted to create a link between the house and garden, and make our home work harder for years to come.'

To achieve that transformation, Guy – an events creative director with a keen eye for how

people circulate through spaces – enlisted his university friend, interior architect and designer Jon Hamilton-King. And as part of the ground-floor overhaul, the existing basic knock-through was carefully reshuffled to feel more welcoming and sociable, and the kitchen's footprint was extended, creating extra room for storage and dining.

A 1980s-inspired yellow-and-black palette, along with lots of glass and strong graphic lines combine for a truly striking finish. And the previously dark and uninspiring open-plan area is now a bright, contemporary and cohesive family space. 'It's perfect!' says Guy.



DESIGN SOLUTION

How did the layout evolve?

This was a collaborative project. Guy and Caroline had lots of ideas, principally to create a link between the garden and the kitchen via an extension. We made cardboard models and tried out different permutations – from having the kitchen at the front of the house to the middle, before arriving at the back.

Were the plans approved straight away?

The whole process took five months. We submitted two



Clean and clear

To reap the benefit of the extra space created, everything is hidden behind doors, apart from a long bookshelf cleverly carved out of the wall

Architect and designer Jon Hamilton-King explains...

separate planning applications; the first was to extend the back of the house and the second was to clad the exterior in cedar. Because this wood created an honest distinction between the new and older parts, the council were happy.

Where did the bold colour choices come from?

We considered concealing the structural pillar but technically it was tricky, so we made a feature of it instead, which was partly inspired by the interior of the legendary Hacienda club in Manchester. To

counterpoint the brightness and give it that 1980s feel, we painted the metalwork and a cupboard in a contrasting black shade.

Tell us about the materials?
We enhanced the connection between the outdoor and inside spaces through design and materials. For the cabinetry we used ply, which is so robust you can use it for planes or boats. I'm a big fan of this material and I like how the grain contrasts with the matt-painted surfaces. For the worktops, we opted for durable

Caesarstone, as Guy and Caroline are both keen cooks.

Was it essential to include plenty of storage?

Yes it was. The couple came to the project with a list of storage needs, right down to the number of teaspoons, so the space was designed around this. The units are a standard size and the long-drawer module was made to fit the remaining space. A fridge is housed in a tall oak cupboard, and the grey unit in the dining area stores glassware and crockery. Above the

sink, there's a series of small pop-open cupboards, ideal for organising food and ingredients.

What do you like the most?

I love the kitchen's linear feel. Dispensing with cabinetry handles and having chamfered edges creates a shadow gap that accentuates the lines of the room. I also like the fact that there are subtle echoes throughout the house, for example, the same kitchen tiles appear in the garden and loo, and the oak of the units is repeated in the playroom shelves.



The details

CABINETRY Bespoke oak and ply units by Hamilton King, prices start from around £35,000

SURFACES Caesarstone Bondi worktops, from £650sq m, Hamilton King. Domus Azulej Estrela Blanco wall tiles, £140sq m, Surface Tiles. Maximo floor tiles, £50sq m, Stone & Ceramic Warehouse

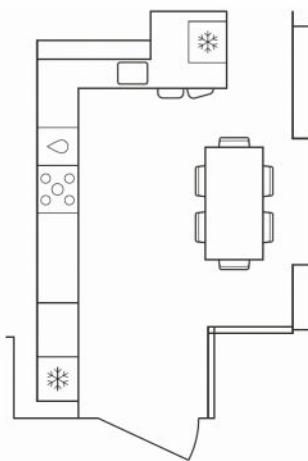
APPLIANCES For a similar range cooker try Baumatic, £560. Extractor,

£330, Siemens. Integrated **fridge freezer**, £700, Neff. **Wine fridge**, £480, Caple

SINK AND TAP Try Clearwater Stark single-bowl sink, £239, Sterling, for similar. Boma S **mixer tap** with rotating attachment, £450, Tapstore.com

FINISHING TOUCHES Torch S3 large cone pendant lights, £234 each; Seleri bar stool, £278; Eames DSR side chairs, £225 each, all Twentytwentynone. Oak dining table, £1,730, Another Country

The layout



Hidden assets

The dining table is perfectly positioned in the side return, and the tall tableware cupboard behind also disguises structural metalwork



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MIRANDA GORE BROWNE
Author & Finalist on The Great British Bake Off

CHALON

EST. 1978







On the bar

The moulded plywood bar stools designed by Mid-Century icon Norman Cherner perfectly complement the timber finishes

Feels like home

Rich, tactile walnut lends a warm and comforting vibe to Julia and Andrew Hall's sleek contemporary kitchen

Feature **AMELIA THORPE**
Photography **PAUL CRAIG**



Clean sweep

As there's no utility room, the kitchen works hard to accommodate and conceal the laundry appliances, which are tucked into the working side of the island

With their first child on the way, Julia and Andrew Hall wanted to buy a larger home that was in good condition and ready to move into. The house they chose was perfect, or so they thought. 'It all looked fine, but as soon as we moved in, we realised it wasn't,' says Julia. One of the worst offenders was the kitchen. 'Cupboard doors were falling off their hinges and the washing machine had leaked behind the cabinets.'

So, as soon as their daughter Eva was born, Julia and Andrew began a three-year project to restore the house to its former glory. After working their way through the property, it was time to tackle the kitchen. 'It's the room where we spend most of our time, so it was important to get it right,' says Julia. And now Eva has been joined by baby sister Amber, Julia and Andrew were clear that they wanted

a practical, family-friendly space that would also work well for entertaining. 'I wanted it to feel calm and ordered, with a contemporary uncluttered look, clean lines and symmetry,' says Julia. 'But I didn't want the room to be too minimal or clinical – it had to have character and a homely feel.'

A friend recommended kitchen designer Melanie Williams, whose architectural training and space-planning skills helped Julia make the most of the room. 'Melanie took one look at the existing kitchen and immediately suggested how we could improve the layout to make it more functional and to improve the flow around the space,' says Julia. 'I love the way that Melanie combined the practicality of the layout with a very striking, streamlined and handleless design,' she says. 'The sleek white cabinetry makes a calm backdrop – and the warmth of the walnut makes it feel like our home.'

'STORAGE IN THE RIGHT PLACES KEEPS A KITCHEN CLUTTER-FREE, WHICH IS VITAL IN A ROOM THAT IS THE SHOWPIECE OF THE HOUSE'

Project profile

THE OWNERS Julia Hall, her husband, Andrew, and daughters, Eva, 3, and Amber, 1

THEIR HOME A Victorian terrace in southwest London

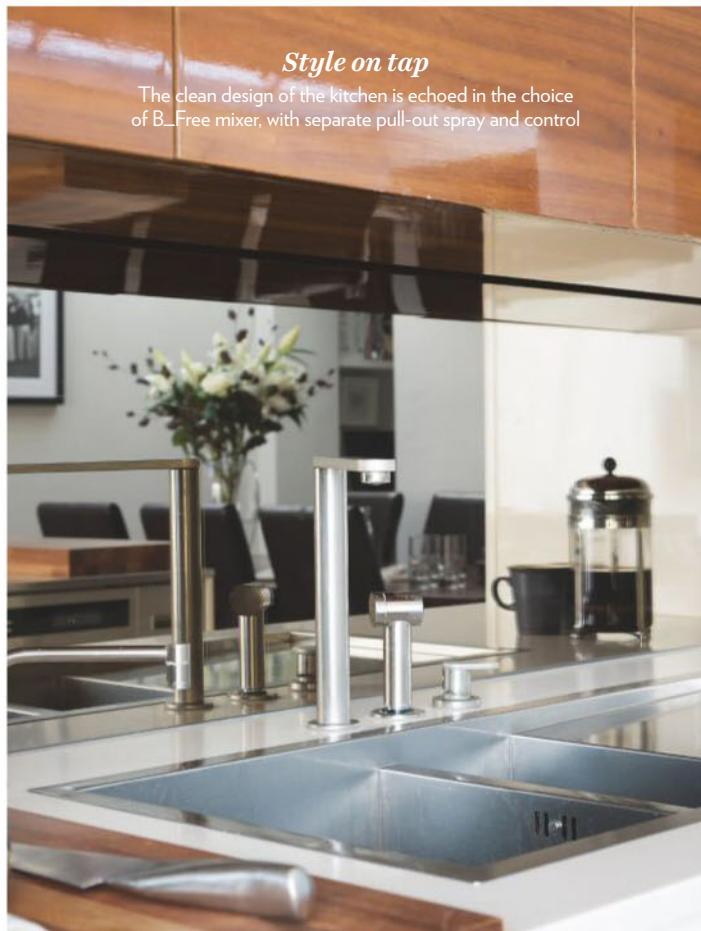
THE PROJECT Knocking down an internal wall between the kitchen and hall to create a larger room, and installing new cabinetry and appliances

ROOM SIZE About 7 x 4m (kitchen and dining areas only)

DESIGNER Melanie Williams

CABINETRY Bespoke, hand-built and spray gloss-lacquered units, in gloss-lacquered walnut veneer cupboards. Kitchens from £25,000, Melanie Williams Bespoke Interiors

BUDGET About £60,000, including building work





DESIGN SOLUTIONS

Designer Melanie Williams explains...

How did you begin the project?

One of the first things was to remove an internal wall of opaque glass blocks – it divided the kitchen from the hall, took up room, obstructed the view and didn't serve any useful purpose. Removing it instantly created a more open feel.

What inspired you to create the layout?

The previous kitchen included a slim island that made the room feel long and narrow, but by removing the glass wall, we had more space. So we designed a larger island, which sits more comfortably and suits the proportions of the kitchen. It serves as the focal point, the main cooking station and, with the bar chairs, as the socialising hub. It also links to the tall cabinets and sink area running along one wall, and drinks zone opposite, and allows an easy room flow.

Can you tell us more about the cooking station on the island?

It includes a powerful gas hob, flush-fitted into a stainless steel worktop. The accessory channel behind allows Julia to store bottles of oil and things she needs to reach when she is cooking. Friends can sit at the walnut breakfast bar, which is raised so that glasses (and guests) are kept

away from the cooking surface. Deep drawers below the hob make pans within easy reach, while the sink is only a step or two away.

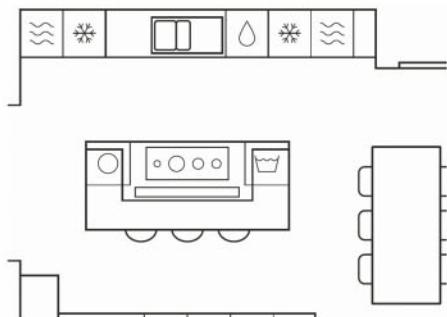
How did you choose the cabinetry?

Julia and Andrew wanted a streamlined and symmetrical look, so we used simple, handleless units. Tall sections house the ovens and they are arranged to create a sense of balance. The soft, off-white shade is clean and cool, its glossy lacquered finish designed to boost light and the sense of space. To add interest and warmth, we included a section of glossy walnut wall cabinets with the bronze mirror splashback below, again to reflect as much light as possible.

What was the thinking behind the ceiling-mounted extractor?

The kitchen had been extended over the side return before Julia and Andrew bought the house, and they inherited ceiling heights and structural beams at different levels. We didn't want a hanging island hood to obscure the view of the garden, so we built the extractor into a suspended feature, which brings uniformity to the ceiling heights, and conceals the ducting.

The layout



The details

CABINETRY Bespoke spray gloss-lacquered units, painted in Farrow & Ball Strong White estate eggshell, with wall cabinets in gloss-lacquered walnut veneer. Kitchen prices from £25,000

SURFACES Corian worktops in Bisque, from £310/m. Breakfast bar in solid walnut, as part of cabinetry price; bronze mirror splashback, around £800, Melanie Williams Bespoke Interiors. Atkinson & Kirby Diamond range walnut engineered wood flooring, from £46.87/sq m, Wood Flooring Supplies. Wall paint, Cornforth White modern emulsion, £39.50 for 2.5 litres, Farrow & Ball

APPLIANCES Built-in single oven, £1,500; combination steam oven, £3,150; microwave, £860; warming drawer, £899; coffee machine, £2,500; fully integrated dishwasher, £1,350; washing machine, £1,355; tumble dryer, £1,950 (both semi-integrated); two built-under wine coolers, £1,850 each, all Miele. Stratus ceiling extractor, from £1,392, Westin. Lab gas hob and bespoke stainless steel worktop, from £1,380; accessory channel, £1,578, all Barazza. Integrated tall fridge, £730; two integrated built-under freezers, £440 each, all Neff

SINK AND TAPS 100cm one-and-a-half bowl stainless steel flush set sink, £576; B_Free mixer tap with remote and separate spray, £565, both Barazza. Modern boiling water tap in stainless steel finish, £980, Quooker

FINISHING TOUCHES Cherner bar stools in walnut, £608 each, Twentytwentyone. A similar coffee table is the Tuscan, £1,195, Heal's. Similar sofa, from a selection, Natuzzi. Tolomeo Mega floor lamp, £565, The Conran Shop. Tiffany rug, £119, Kelaty. Flowers by Luna Stein

For stockist details turn to page 126

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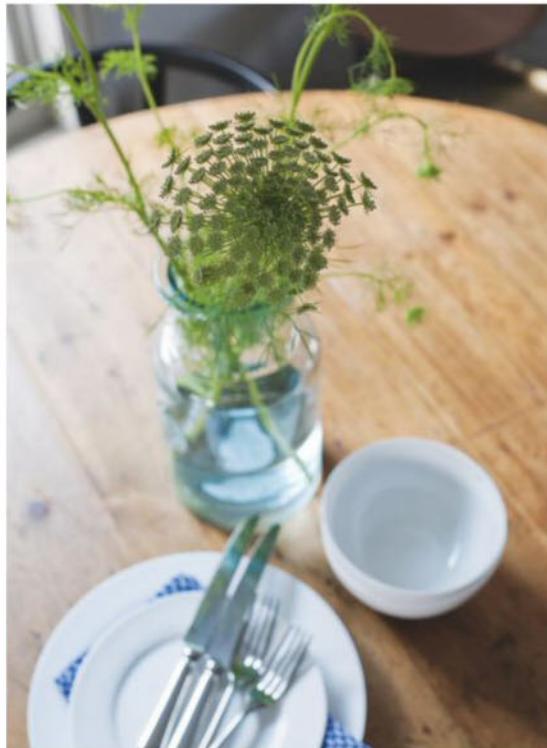
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SKY'S THE LIMIT

Daniel and AnnaClaire Mahony were open to new ideas when it came to redesigning their penthouse apartment's kitchen

Feature MAXINE CLARKE Photography FIONA WALKER-ARNOTT



New Zealanders Daniel and AnnaClaire Mahony pulled out all the stops when it came to designing the kitchen in their newly renovated home. Inspiration came courtesy of the location, in a trendy part of west London.

When the couple bought the property, they obtained permission to extend the top floor and reconfigure the floorplan. 'In the original layout, the sitting room and reception area were on the top floor with a kitchen and two compact bedrooms below,' says Daniel. 'It meant you'd cook your dinner and go upstairs to dine. So we rejigged the plan, opening up the downstairs area into a spacious open-plan kitchen, dining and living room.' Studio Duggan, the company Daniel regularly works with, assisted with the interior design. 'I wanted the place to look

unique, lived in and homely, with interesting colours,' says Daniel. 'We also wanted a mixture of old and new, rather than a sleek scheme.'

Following a series of meetings with Tiffany Duggan and her design team, an adventurous plan, featuring an arresting combination of materials and textures, took shape. 'We designed the cabinetry ourselves and had it built and fitted on site, and came up with options for worktops and tiles,' says Daniel.

Daniel and AnnaClaire's kitchen isn't simply about aesthetics, however – everything has been carefully considered, resulting in a stylish, practical and hard-working space. 'We're returning to New Zealand shortly, as we'd prefer to raise our son, Alfie, there,' says Daniel. 'But we'll still visit frequently, and wanted our UK pied à terre to be as comfortable and family-friendly as possible.'



Material gains

Chunky Carrara marble worksurfaces enhance the luxurious feel, and herringbone parquet flooring adds another layer of texture, pattern and visual interest

Project profile

THE OWNERS Daniel Mahony, an interior designer, his wife AnnaClaire, and their two-year-old son Alfie

which were relocated to the upper level

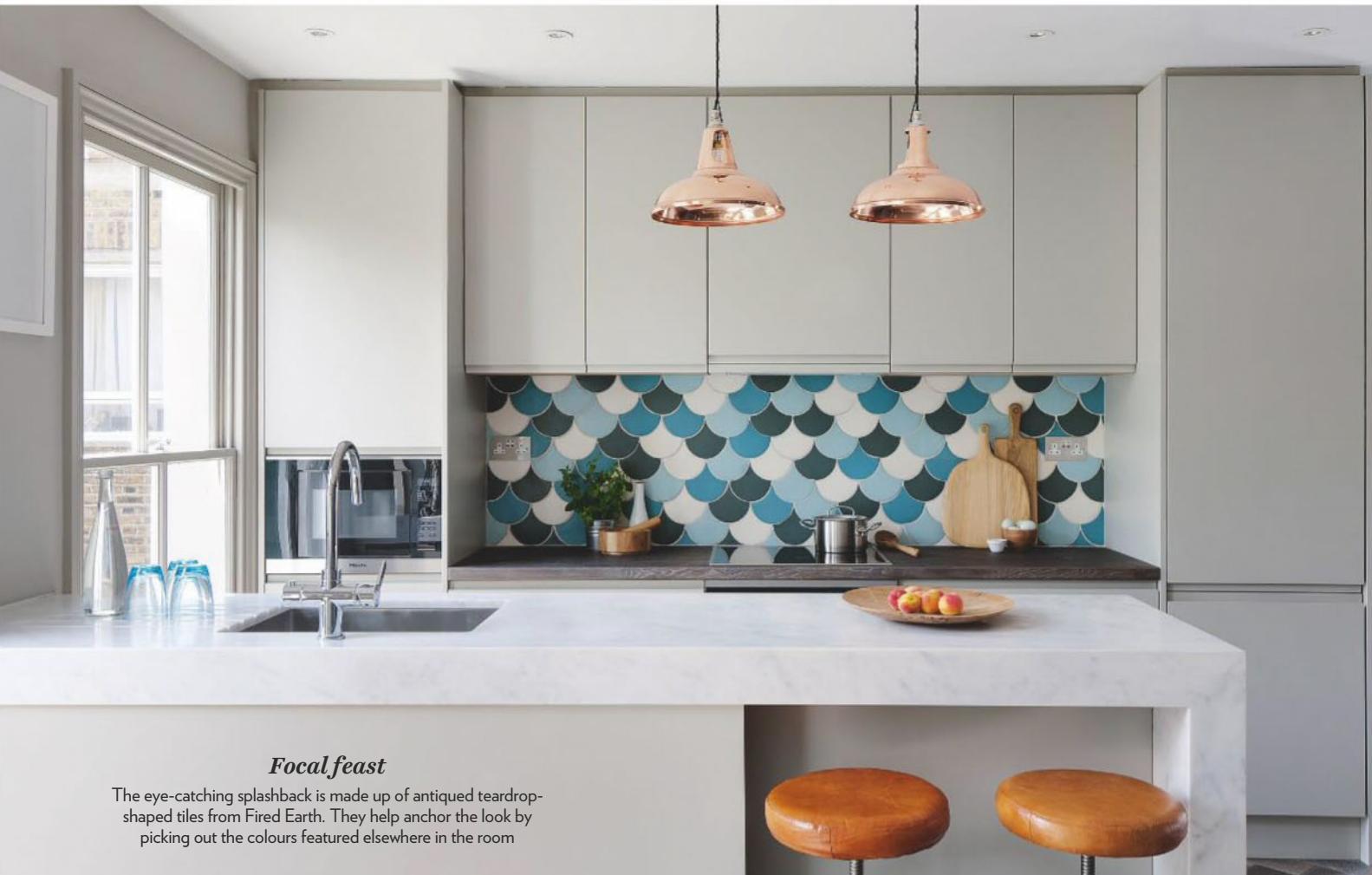
ROOM SIZE 6.7 x 4.9m (kitchen area only)

DESIGNER Daniel Mahony in collaboration with Studio Duggan interior design

CABINETRY Bespoke spray-painted MDF with oak-veneer carcasses, £15,000, Rudy & Newman

BUDGET Around £22,000

'WE CHOSE THE CURVED, RUSTIC SPLASHBACK TILES TO OFFSET THE SLICK, ANGULAR LINES OF THE MARBLE ISLAND' *Tiffany Duggan, Studio Duggan*



Focal feast

The eye-catching splashback is made up of antiqued teardrop-shaped tiles from Fired Earth. They help anchor the look by picking out the colours featured elsewhere in the room



DESIGN SOLUTION *Daniel explains...*

Was this a straightforward project?

It took a lot longer than we'd hoped – about six months. We'd planned for the island to be open underneath, like a big table, but because we'd need to exit the apartment through the kitchen in the event of a fire, we had to install sprinklers. All the equipment for this needed to be near the water supply, which meant housing it in the island. Actually, it worked out better because we've now got the dishwasher and heat-pump for the boiling-water tap housed in there, too.

What about the rest of the cabinetry?

The new space needed custom-made furniture

to make it more efficient. We made the units according to the dimensions of the space and so each zone would flow. We designed the cabinetry and provided the builders with the drawings, and they built it to our specifications.

Tell us about the worksurface materials

AnnaClaire and I chose honed Carrara marble worktops instead of a more traditional glossy finish, because the look adds a bit of softness to the kitchen. It also has a better aesthetic and a bit more texture. We opted for a stained-oak top on the cooker run to separate the two surfaces, with the marble island being the centrepiece of the kitchen.

Where did the splashback come from?

We needed something to connect the kitchen with the rest of the look we'd established. As the project progressed, we grew confident about colour and texture, and the design team came up with a range of unusual and striking tiles.

And the flooring?

It's a fired-oak timber, and we worked closely with the flooring company to come up with our own silvery/brown stain. We decided on a herringbone design because we love the look, texture and the feel of it. It's an engineered floor that's really hardy, and seems to wear very well.



Precious metal

Industrial-style copper pendant lights add a touch of gloss and contrast dramatically with the matt finish of the handleless cabinetry and feature splashback



Best bar none

Painted in Farrow & Ball's Stiffkey Blue, the bar unit features a glamorous hammered-copper splashback and built-in wine fridge. It also acts as a divider between the kitchen-diner and living area

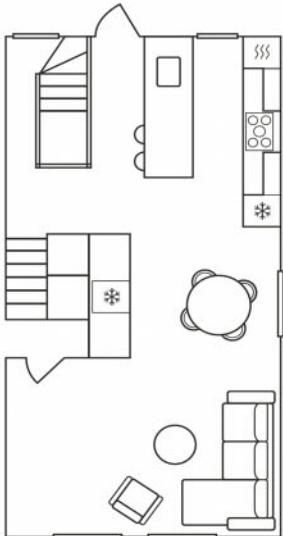


Light location

When the staircase was removed and relocated, the couple opted for a glass balustrade to maintain a bright open feel

'WE WENT THROUGH DIFFERENT OPTIONS WITH THE INTERIOR DESIGN TEAM AND, TO ACHIEVE AN INDIVIDUAL LOOK, WE TRIED TO PUSH IT FURTHER AND BE BRAVER IN OUR DECISION-MAKING'

The layout



The details

CABINETRY Bespoke spray-painted MDF units with oak-veneer carcasses, £15,000, Rudy & Newman. Cabinetry paint, Hardwick White and Stiffkey Blue estate eggshell, both £53 for 2.5 litres, Farrow & Ball

SURFACES Wall paint, Hardwick White estate emulsion, £36 for 2.5 litres, Farrow & Ball. Worktops in honed Carrara marble, £1,644, Verona marble; 90mm Deluxe oak, £410, Worktop Express. Splashback in Paris Cabaret wall tiles in Sage, Opal, Turquoise, Cream, £712.58sq m, Fired Earth. Hand-beaten copper sheets, £240, Metal Sheets. Versailles parquet flooring in Gainsboro, £74.73sq m, Cheville Parquet

APPLIANCES Electric oven, £970; combi microwave, £629; induction hob, £810, all Miele. Telescopic cooker hood, £290; fridge freezer, £710; dishwasher, £420, all Neff. Wine cooler, £408, Baumatic

SINK AND TAP Kubus single-bowl sink in stainless steel, £250; Minerva 3-in-1 kettle tap in chrome, £710, both Franke. ISE 55 waste-disposal unit, £199, InSinkErator

FINISHING TOUCHES Leather top adjustable bar stools, £120 each, Rockett St George. Coolicon pendant type lamp in copper, £75, Artifact Lighting. Scratch tall white porcelain bottle vase, £25, Habitat, is similar to this one. Cushions from a selection, Zara Home. Round plank top dining table, £550, The Old Cinema. Hans J. Wegner-style Wishbone chair in black, £129, Cult Furniture. For an Eero Saarinen coffee table like this one try Skandium, £3,500. Stella corner sofa, from £1,690, Sofa.com. Curtains, price on application, Studio Duggan. Fissler 18cm stew pot, from £165, Selfridges. Oak pestle & mortar, £16; long paddle chopping board, £12, Sainsbury's. Rounded wood chopping board, £35, The White Company

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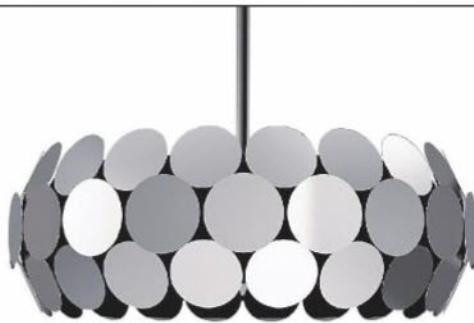
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9

1 Beautiful white glass pendant light, recirculating extractor or both – the Turandot island cooker hood has four speeds and endless appeal. H36 x L60 x D48cm, £1,085, **Air Uno**. 2 With three halogen spotlights and a polished stainless steel finish, the Vintage hood makes a real statement. Dia63cm, £1,849, **BEST**. 3 The DA6690W Wall Décor Hood is exceptionally quiet at 51db and has an A+ energy rated motor and LED spotlights. H8.5 x W89.8 x D50cm, £2,000, **Miele**. 4 The titanium-finish drum-shaped Twister is stylish, sophisticated and makes a great statement feature over an island. Dia45cm, £1,842, **Falme**. 5 A boost setting on the JLHDA912 hood offers six minutes of enhanced extraction before returning to level three as standard. H75.5 x

W90 x D49cm, £379, **John Lewis**. 6 The sleek white EFV55460OW has three speeds and is ideal for a contemporary kitchen scheme. H53.2 x W80 x D33.9cm, £629, **Electrolux**. 7 A wonderfully curvaceous take on the traditional chimney hood, the Dolce is made from a super-smooth polymer and is available in six colours including azure blue and orange, H69.8 x W86 x D47cm, from £649, **Ellica**. 8 The stunning new CR700 Ceramica island hood with its on-trend copper finish will give any kitchen a stylish edge. H120 x Dia69cm, from £2,029, **Caple**. 9 Finished in a traditional cream colour, the three-speed KT90P is a perfect accompaniment to a traditional range cooker. H30.7 x W90 x D48cm, £460, **Smeg**.



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Secrets of a... GLASS EXTENSION EXPERT

David Salisbury, MD of the eponymous conservatory specialist, discusses the benefits of adding a glass extension to your kitchen

Your extension will become the place where you live most of your life. A few years ago, many of us added conservatories, orangeries or garden rooms onto our living spaces, but these didn't necessarily work in terms of flow, and so were underused or served merely as a corridor to the garden.

Today, glazed extensions are increasingly becoming integrated spaces. If they cross over more than one room, or span the back of a property, they open up the space and work well for entertaining. A kitchen is successful if sited as part of an extension, creating a social area that forms the heart of the house.

A garden room incorporates a partly or completely solid tiled roof with glass walls, making it a good option for controlling light levels. By contrast, conservatory roofs and walls are often made entirely out of glass, plus uPVC, aluminium or, in our case, timber framing. An

orangery is a more substantial extension – as it quite often includes an element of low-height solid wall and a significant amount of the roof will be flat, with light let in by roof lanterns.

Functionally, an orangery offers the best of both worlds. It is light and airy in summer and warm and cosy in winter, allowing it to be fully integrated into the rest of the house.

A kitchen orangery or one that can be incorporated into an existing kitchen is what most customers ask for now. We've started designing orangeries with flat roof lights that open electronically, as a modern, hi-tech alternative to lanterns.

Conservatory-style extensions were most popular in the 1980s and 1990s. Today, they're favoured by those who prefer a traditional look, and are good for listed buildings. Now, the real growth is in modern buildings with clean lines, and rustic-oak extensions.

time conservatories became so uncomfortable on a hot summer's day that you couldn't sit in them, but this is no longer the case thanks to these advancements in glass.

You can request self-cleaning glass for roofs or switchable glass, which turns opaque for privacy at the flick of a switch. The latter is an expensive option, but one which has become increasingly popular. There is also a type of glass that radiates heat into the building.

It takes the same amount of time to install a glazed extension as it does a bricks and mortar one. If planning permission isn't needed, it typically takes around four months, from placing the order to the end of the build process.

Consider lighting and heating from the outset. Electric underfloor heating is ideal as it keeps the walls free and maintains a consistent ambient temperature. The next best thing is to run existing central heating from the house to the extension.

We offer a full turnkey service, working with a team of 18 designers throughout the UK. We offer all types of extensions, house windows, front doors and verandas, and also work with an interior designer, who can help you choose the right style for your new extension.

David Salisbury glass extensions start at £20,000 and prices vary depending on the size and features of the project. 01278 764444, davidsalisbury.com



Innovations in glass have revolutionised extensions. The heat loss from a typical glass construction is less than half of what it was 15 years ago. Every few years, a new coating comes out to improve on this. At one



OPPOSITE PAGE The Harrington three-seater sofa, £1,100, from Neptune, would make an elegant addition to a more traditional conservatory.

CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE Made from natural woven wood, pinoleum blinds

control sunlight and prevent glare, making them a stylish and practical choice. See the range by Conservatory Blinds. A contemporary glass-box extension is the perfect place to site a dining area. Find sumptuous furnishings and clever lighting to create a

conservatory or orangery that feels like a natural extension of your home. If space isn't an issue, go for the wow factor with a glazed extension that opens on to a patio or terrace overlooking the garden. A kitchen orangery is an increasingly popular choice.





FRESH FINISHES

Eye-catching new materials and surface effects are bringing real personality to the kitchen

WITH THE PREVALENCE OF PAINTED cabinetry for classic kitchens and flat lacquer and veneers for modern, you could be forgiven for thinking there was little else available. But a thirst for originality has driven some exciting developments. ‘The best trends right now are born of new-generation materials and finishes, such as pressed porcelain and concrete resins, allowing designers to realise some of their wildest dreams,’ says Keith Atkins of DesignSpace London. There’s a real sensory focus on materials that bring a tactile treat to cooking. ‘The timing couldn’t be better as we integrate the kitchen into wider spaces,’ adds Bernard Otulakowski, MD of SieMatic UK. ‘Interesting metallics, striking timbers and exotic stones blend with living and dining areas while remaining firmly in the spotlight.’

PRECIOUS METALS

Stainless steel doors remain popular with those seeking a professional-style kitchen, and Italian brand Abimis’s new Ego range, made by catering specialists Prisma, is proof that steel can still steal the show. However, metallics are moving in a more sophisticated direction, with precious-metal finishes applied by hand using metal leaf, or splayed and polished to create the desired effect.

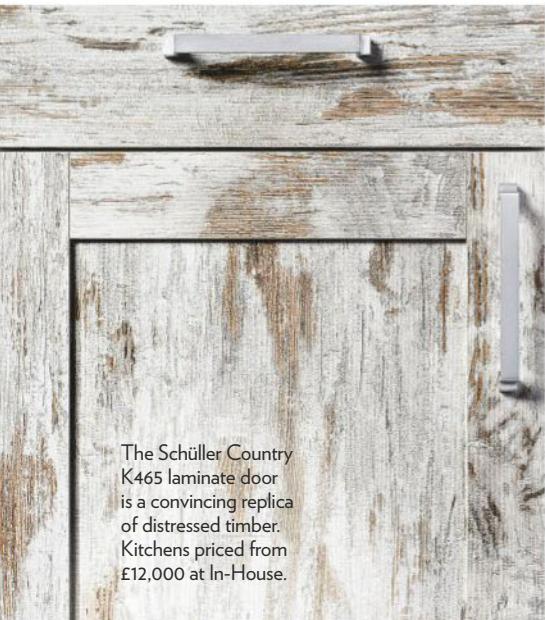
Claudio Silvestrin perfected the gold-leaf wall cabinet for Minotti Cucine, and Roundhouse has used a resin that allows its fabulous Metallics collection to softly sparkle while maintaining a practical surface. Also check out Design Haus Liberty’s beautifully faceted copper island unit. ‘The key is to balance metal doors with neutral colours, such as white with gold or brass and grey with silver, so your

kitchen doesn’t appear too glitz,’ says Richard McGee, Holloways of Ludlow designer.

An option for those concerned about the durability of precious metals is TheSize’s new iron range. Replicating aged metal, the designs are imprinted on Neolith – a top-performing new form of porcelain that is resistant to extreme high temperatures and pressure. ‘The idea is to recreate the beauty of aged metals on a stable material that won’t patinate or need maintenance,’ says Mar Esteve, marketing project manager, TheSize.

ROUGH AND READY

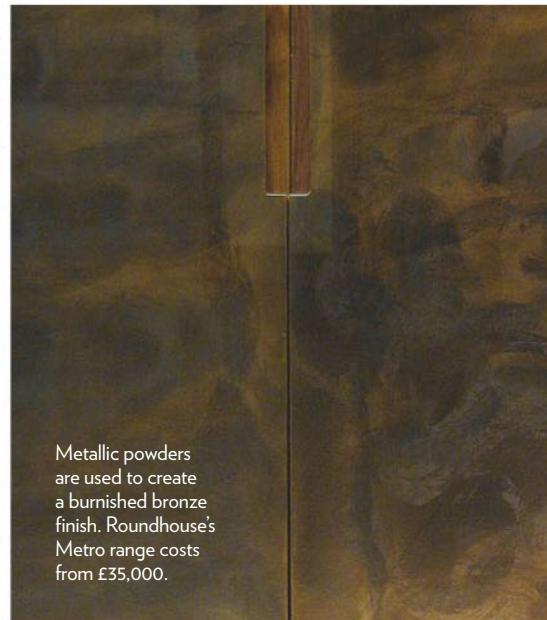
The trend for roughly-hewn wood has gone mainstream with a new collection from Ikea. ‘Our idea was to make the Hyttan door in a craftsmanlike way,’ explains its designers Marianne and Knut Hagberg. ‘We chose



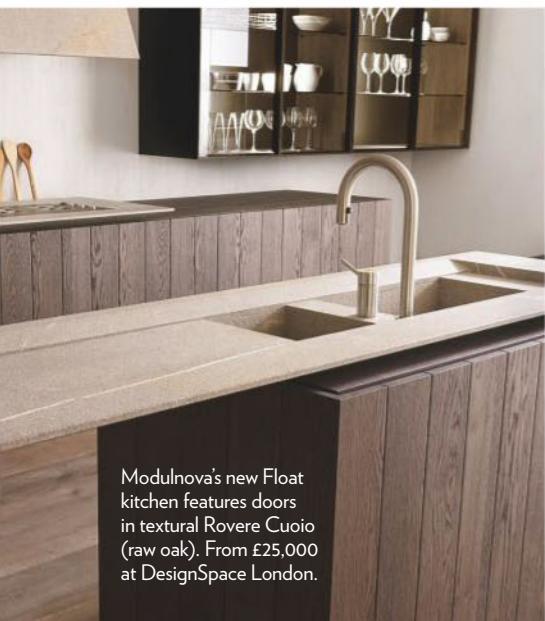
The Schüller Country K465 laminate door is a convincing replica of distressed timber. Kitchens priced from £12,000 at In-House.



Ikea celebrates the artisan appeal of rough-cut oak with its Hyttan lacquered raw-oak veneer door, from £68.



Metallic powders are used to create a burnished bronze finish. Roundhouse's Metro range costs from £35,000.



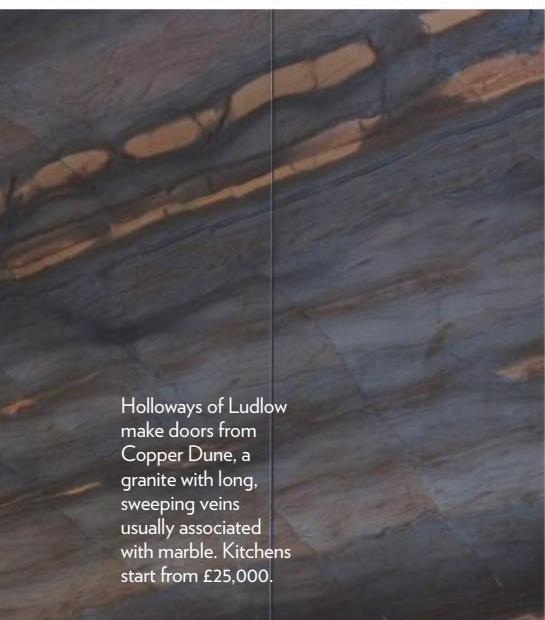
Modulnova's new Float kitchen features doors in textural Rovere Cuoio (raw oak). From £25,000 at DesignSpace London.



Rupert Bevan wraps solid doors in patinated brass with a distressed finish, from £1,200 for an antique-industrial look.



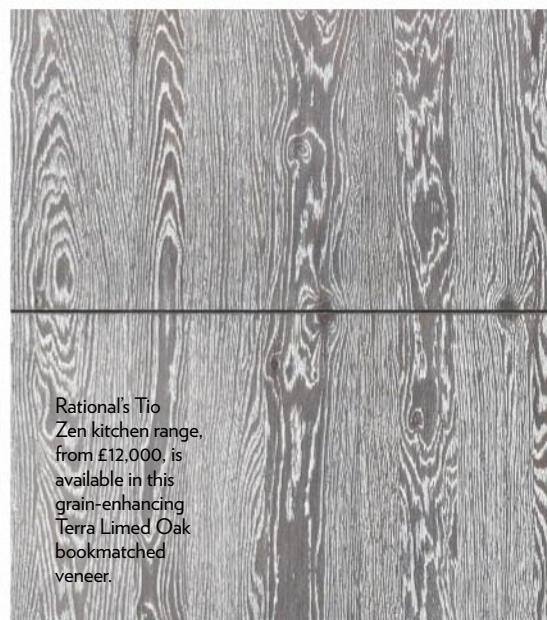
Cesar's new Maxima 2.2 project has durable super-slim doors in more than 80 finishes. Available in the UK from Bianchi Furniture, price on application.



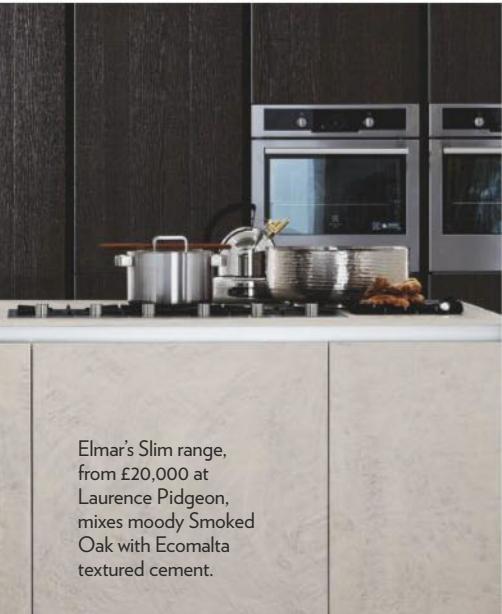
Holloways of Ludlow make doors from Copper Dune, a granite with long, sweeping veins usually associated with marble. Kitchens start from £25,000.



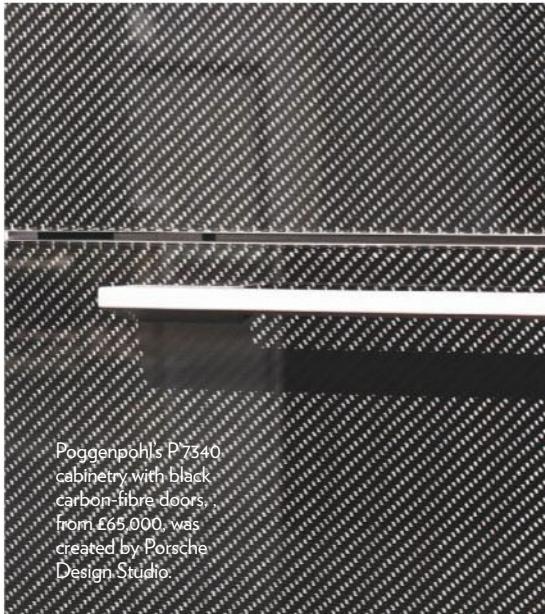
The doors on Leicht's Tocco/Concrete kitchen are made from fine concrete applied to MDF, and an easy-clean sealant. The blend shown is called Brasilia. Kitchens from £15,000.



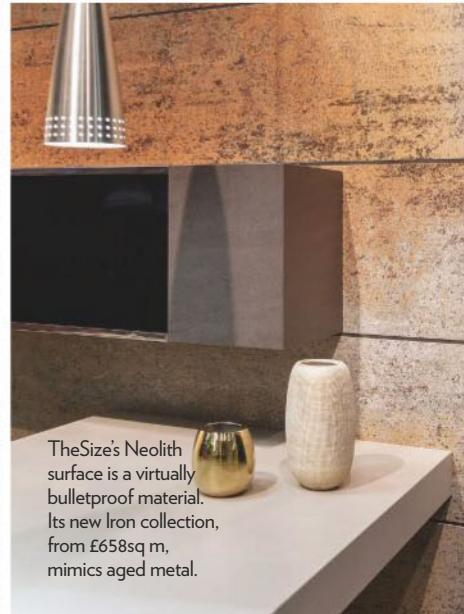
Rational's Tio Zen kitchen range, from £12,000, is available in this grain-enhancing Terra Limed Oak bookmatched veneer.



Elmar's Slim range, from £20,000 at Laurence Pidgeon, mixes moody Smoked Oak with Ecomalta textured cement.



Poggenpohl's P 7340 cabinetry with black carbon-fibre doors, from £65,000, was created by Porsche Design Studio.



TheSize's Neolith surface is a virtually bulletproof material. Its new Iron collection, from £658sq m, mimics aged metal.

rough-cut oak veneer with a matt-lacquer finish to bring out the texture and variations in the wood. Every door is unique, and it gives your kitchen a look that's warm and alive.'

The degree of roughness varies between manufacturers and the really craggy examples, though beautiful, are not designed to be used in the hardest-working areas of the kitchen. Fortunately, the majority of rough-sawn doors are heavily protected with clear lacquers or oils and any major gaps are filled or avoided.

Toncelli's Progetto 50 range features a furrowed wooden door that, it says, 'has been treated and processed to achieve the perfect compromise between beautiful craftsmanship and expert finishing.' Another hot timber trend is the return to lime-washed or bleached wood – see Roundhouse's Driftwood collection and Smallbone of Devizes' latest Brasserie kitchen.

BACK TO MATT

The latest look for lacquer involves an ultra-chic, dead-flat matt finish. This new surface is widely referred to as 'super matt', and many manufacturers are using nanotechnology to ensure it's as easy to clean as its glossier counterparts. 'Nanotechnology refers to a special coating that's very thin and protects the door against fingerprints, scratches and so on,' explains Michael Wunram, managing director of Eggersmann, which recently unveiled its Works collection in super-matt black laminate.

While black looks set to lead the matt movement, the style also works well in paler variations. Rational is offering the new finish in Velvet White, Magnolia and Ultra-White.

INSPIRED BY TILES

Just as porcelain-tiled flooring is celebrated for its tough structure, the latest pressed porcelain and ceramic cabinet doors also

boast high levels of strength and durability – Modulnova's Kerlite 1cm-thick pressed porcelain doors are a great example. Or if you require a thicker door, it can be veneered onto a solid core, such as the ceramic-veneered door from Laurence Pidgeon's Slim kitchens by Elmar.

'For clients who love the look of concrete, porcelain makes a more practical and reliably consistent alternative,' says Laurence. It's non-porous, hygienic, easy to clean and can also be used to clad worksurfaces, splashbacks and walls. Fans of real concrete will be glad of the increased development of composite concrete, made by mixing concrete with resins for a more stable substrate. Leicht's Concrete range uses a finer version applied to lacquered MDF bases, which is then sealed with a matt lacquer.

NATURAL ATTRACTION

Mother Nature continues to inspire, most notably with a demand for kitchen doors made from exotic stones with exceptional veining and colouring. Bookmatching across the width of an island is particularly effective and, for such a traditional material, solid stone works surprisingly well on modern modular designs.

Stone fabricators are a good first port of call – try Stone Interiors or Stone Age – but stone is also available from high-end kitchen brands. Ernestomeda has recently launched a door in leather-finished Pietra Piasentina marble, while Minotti Cucine's Atelier range includes Porfido Verde granite, Emperador Dark marble and Labradorite Bianca granite.

As solid stone is heavy, manufacturers tend to veneer a thin layer of it onto a solid but lightweight man-made core. Neil Lerner's Stone Veneer range uses genuine volcanic stone veneered onto doors. 'This is a beautiful new finish and no two doors will be the same, so every kitchen will be totally unique,' he says.

NEED TO KNOW

- **A solid door needs a seriously stable carcass, so don't ever be tempted to pop new doors onto flimsy cabinets.**
- **Think about depth and texture, particularly with physically cold materials such as stone and porcelain, which can look hard when used solo.**
- **Add timber doors to warm things up. Also introduce rugs and upholstery to improve acoustics.**
- **The more exclusive or exotic the material, the heftier the price-tag. Keep your budget in check by adding expensive doors in small doses – just the wall cabinets for example – using simple doors in a complementary colour elsewhere in the kitchen.**
- **Read and absorb any maintenance requirements before you purchase. Some materials, such as gold leaf, are unsuited to busy family kitchens or would be better kept away from hardworking areas.**
- **Ask to take samples home to give yourself time to decide if it's the right option. Some colours appear very different depending on light levels, and those in your home will vary to a brightly lit showroom.**

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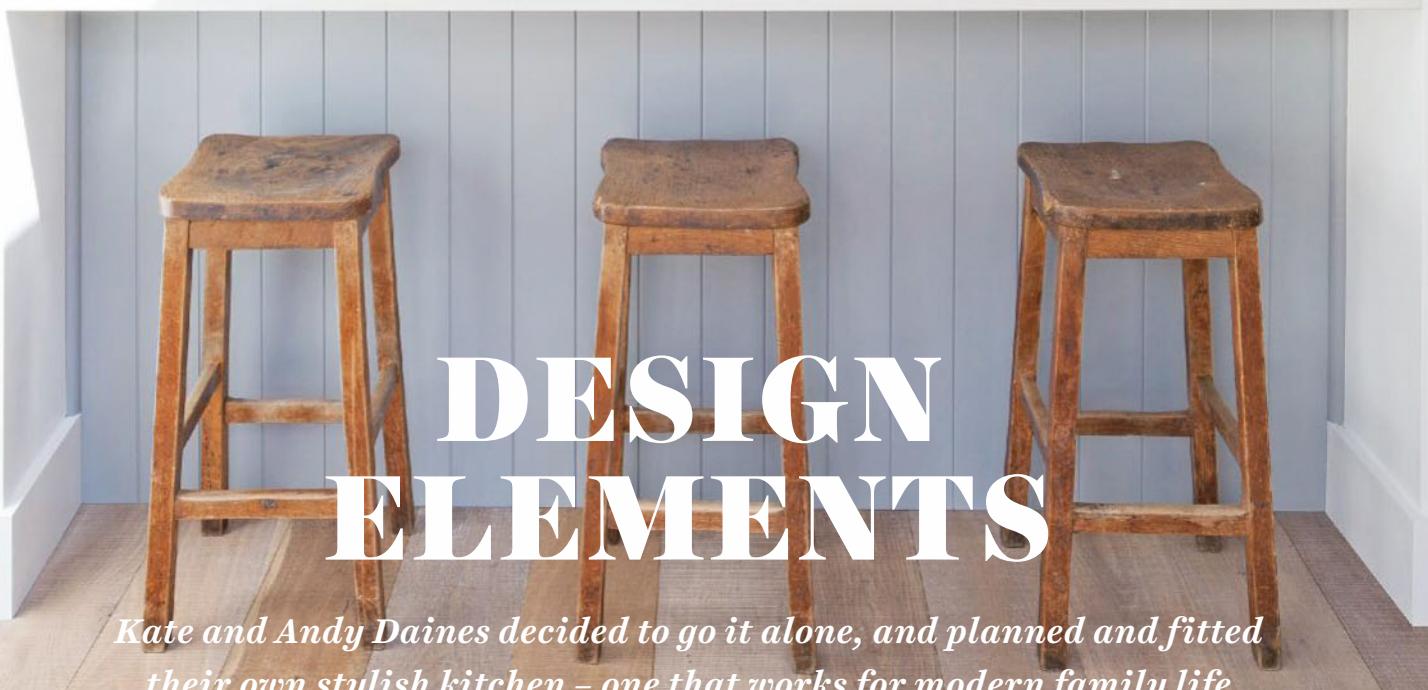
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Perfect match

The couple created their own kitchen using simple carcasses fronted with Shaker-style door and drawer fronts painted to order in a grey shade



DESIGN ELEMENTS

Kate and Andy Daines decided to go it alone, and planned and fitted their own stylish kitchen – one that works for modern family life

Feature HELEN STONE Photography NIALL McDIARMID

Project profile

THE OWNERS Kate and Andy Daines, with their daughters, Martha, 4, and Jemima, 1 month. Kate is an interiors stylist and Andy owns garden landscape and home remodelling company Spruce & Bloom, spruceandbloom.co.uk

THEIR HOME A four-bedroom 1930s semi in southwest London

THE PROJECT The couple swapped a pokey double galley at the rear of the house with the adjacent dark dining room, then opened up the space

ROOM SIZE 4 x 4m

DESIGNER Kate and Andy designed and fitted the kitchen

CABINETRY Carcasses and fittings from Ikea, around £600 in total, with door and drawer fronts by Just Doors, around £2,000

BUDGET Around £10,000, including building work



LEFT *In store*

This pantry was crafted from the under-stairs cupboard. It has open shelving to display Kate's collection of kitchenalia and tableware but also houses a freestanding fridge freezer and foodstuffs

ABOVE *The lowdown*

Kate and Andy were keen to avoid wall units and tall larder cupboards, and the classic U-shaped layout helps keep children out of the working area. It also provides ample room for two cooks to work together



'LIKE ALL THE PREVIOUS DESIGN PROJECTS WE'VE DONE TOGETHER, THE DETAILS WERE DECIDED IN HEATED DEBATES OVER A GLASS OF WINE'

A minor problem prompted a major rethink for Kate and Andy Daines. When they were unable to find the exact shade of grey they wanted for their planned kitchen, they opted for a less orthodox approach. 'Nothing within our budget was quite right, until we discovered we could specify any paint shade to Just Doors,' says Kate. As the name suggests, the company supplies doors only, so Andy and Kate researched carcasses, and decided that Ikea had the build quality they were after.

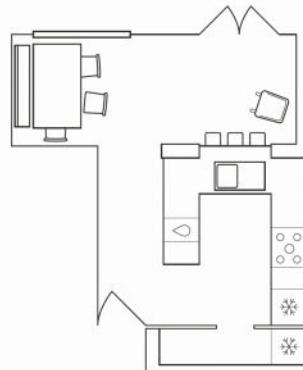
Having completed several projects before and having design backgrounds, they were confident they could rework the awkward space at the back of their house, design the kitchen, and do all the work

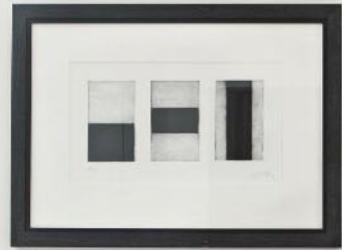
themselves. 'Originally, we wanted to extend,' says Kate, 'but our budget was limited.'

A clever swap of the dining room and kitchen plus removing a wall and chimney breast has created a bright room that flows beautifully. 'People come round and say, "Oh, you've extended,"' says Kate. 'It feels so different, they can't believe we haven't but, in fact, it's just a better use of space.'

The couple spoke to an architect and a kitchen designer friend before undertaking the project, but eventually followed their own path. 'We ended up ignoring practically everything they said,' admits Kate. 'They were good ideas, but just didn't work for us as a family. By taking control, we were able to get exactly what we wanted at every stage.'

The layout





Unique touches

A mix of reclaimed furniture, artistic finds and a soft neutral colour palette make this a stylish and welcoming scheme



Brighter outlook

Replacing the existing skylight with a modern alternative illuminates the space

DESIGN SOLUTIONS *Andy explains...*

How did you remodel the space?

Our original kitchen was along the back of the house where the dining area is now, and we moved the kitchen into the old dining room. We took down the wall between the two rooms as well as a chimney breast from the wall where the cooker is now and we turned the space under the stairs into a pantry. We fitted new doors to the garden, and updated an existing skylight.

Tell us what made you pick a U-shape layout?

It was just a better use of the space. We were keen to keep the children out from under our feet, and this layout works really well. Martha might play in the pantry but generally she's in the dining area. The sink is positioned so we can always see her, even when she's in the garden.

How did you find using different companies for the doors and cabinets?

Just Doors were really helpful and we were able

to order everything online, which was great. The doors are 22mm MDF, which is thicker than Ikea doors, so I spent a lot of time there with a tape measure – the corner cupboards required a bit of extra thought. The lead time for the doors was about six weeks so we had a week of cupboards with no doors, but that wasn't a problem.

Was most of the work done yourselves?

We both come from design backgrounds, Kate's got a great eye for space, and we've done several projects before, so we were confident. I also fit kitchens and remodel space, so I was able to tackle everything except plumbing and electrics.

You opted for base units only, did that compromise storage?

Not at all. Our kitchen designer friend suggested a layout with one wall of tall cupboards and built-in appliances, and an open island, but it didn't suit our style. We wanted something softer, relaxed, and more Scandinavian. There's plenty of cupboard space and we've used pull-out

fittings in the two corner cupboards to make everything accessible. The pantry was supposed to be just for food storage but I had no idea just how much chinaware Kate had!

What about worktops?

We had tear sheets of our dream kitchen we'd pulled out of magazines and our ideal was concrete worktops with an integrated sink, but it wasn't an option for our budget. So we choose this pale ceramic, which has a lovely matt finish.

And the panelled walls?

Traditional tongue-and-groove can fluctuate with changes in humidity and temperature so I lined the walls with ply and glued on strips of MDF to get the same effect but with a more stable finish.

Were there any downsides to doing the work yourselves?

We were worried about the width of the corridor and that the kitchen might feel too enclosed, but both have worked out fine.

For stockist details go to page 126

The details

CABINETRY Carcasses from Ikea, from £40 for a 60cm standard Metod base cabinet fronted with doors and

drawers from the Shaker Style range, from £52 for a standard door or end panel, and £22 for a drawer front, Just Doors.

Cabinetry painted in Lead Colour intelligent eggshell, £51 for £2.5 litres, Little Greene.

Cabinet paint, Hardwick White estate eggshell, £53 for 2.5 litres, Farrow & Ball

SURFACES Ceramic Livorno worktops, £550m sq, Diapol. Rustic Oak oiled engineered wood floor, from £34sq m, German Floor Company.

Architecture 30.5 x 10 x 1cm tiles in white matt, £44.98sq m, Fired Earth. Wall painted in Strong White estate eggshell, £53 for 2.5 litres, Farrow & Ball

APPLIANCES Built-under single oven, from £344; Exxcel 70cm wide hob with wok burner, from £290; Classixx chimney extractor, from £265; undercounter larder fridge, from £349; integrated dishwasher, from £369, all Bosch. The couple also have an existing fridge freezer in the pantry

SINK AND TAP Sapphira 150 one-and-a-half bowl ceramic sink in classic white, £358, Carron Phoenix. Reginox Brooklyn tap with black handles, £63, Tapsuk

FINISHING TOUCHES

Reclaimed stools, £39 each, Retrouvius. Dining table, around £200 from Sunbury Antiques Market. Reclaimed shelving, from £15 each, Ollie Bow & Son, with brackets, £15 each from Baileys Home. Small black enamelled light shades, £35 each; large black enamel shade, £50, both Dyke & Dean. Wall clock, £250, Newgate. Vitra Eames Rocker, £440, John Lewis

'IF YOU'RE GOING IT ALONE, IT'S IMPORTANT TO
NAIL DOWN EVERY LAST DETAIL BEFORE YOU EVEN
THINK ABOUT STARTING WORK'



Private dining

The dining area sits where the old kitchen used to be and now is a quiet spot overlooking the garden

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Pure & SIMPLE

Streamlined furniture and an unfussy palette create an understatedly stylish finish in Paul Taylor and Colin Malcomson's perfectly planned kitchen

Feature **AMELIA THORPE** Photography **DARREN CHUNG**



Project profile

THE OWNERS Paul Taylor, a TV lawyer, and his partner, Colin Malcomson, a GP, plus Dave the dog

THEIR HOME A three-storey semi-detached Edwardian house in Manchester

THE PROJECT Removing internal walls to open up a series of small rooms and extending into the garden to create a large, multifunctional space

ROOM SIZE 6.5 x 3.5m (kitchen area)

DESIGNER Jon Andrews at Poggenpohl Manchester

CABINETRY +Segmento units in Polar White laminate and matt black lacquer, with aluminium rails. Poggenpohl kitchens start from £25,000

BUDGET About £30,000 (kitchen only, excluding building work)



When Paul Taylor wanted to practise his new-found architectural skills, he had the ideal place to experiment: his own home. 'I've always been into design and architecture,' he says. 'So I did a degree, which gave me the confidence to redesign my home.'

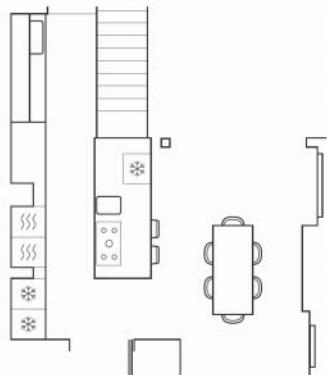
Given that the house had seen better days, it was a major challenge. 'I don't think anything had been done for 30 years,' says Paul, who lives with his partner Colin Malcomson. 'The kitchen was very pokey, next to a gloomy sitting room and a lean-to that was falling down. I had a fairly clear idea that we could knock the rooms together and extend across the back to form an open-plan kitchen, dining and living area. I love

cooking and when friends come round I didn't want to be cut off in another room while making the dinner.'

Armed with his sketches, Paul called on the expertise of architect Maurice Shapero. 'He has a level of understanding of structure and materials that I don't yet have,' admits Paul. Together they vastly modified and extended the ground-floor layout. 'I wanted a modern kitchen to blend with the new space,' explains Paul, who liked the look of Poggenpohl's clean-lined units. 'I met their designer Jon Andrews and he immediately knew what I wanted to achieve, plus he added improvements for an immaculate finish.'

The overall result is a complete success. 'Colin and I do a lot of entertaining and love having people round,' says Paul. 'It's such an amazingly adaptable space.'

The layout





'MATT FINISHES CAN BE USED TO CREATE A SOFT LUXURIOUS LOOK WITH A SUBTLE SOPHISTICATION' *Jon Andrews*



DESIGN SOLUTIONS *Designer Jon Andrews explains...*

What were your main objectives?

Cooking and entertaining are important to Paul and Colin, so the space needed to be functional, first and foremost. The design includes lots of worksurfaces, storage and top-of-the-range equipment, and the layout is arranged to accommodate their guests comfortably.

Tell us more about the layout

To make the most of the open-plan feel, we created a continuous run of furniture along one wall. As well as housing appliances and the sink, it conceals the chimney breast and provides shallow storage for spices and small items. The design is very striking, as well as practical.

How does the island fit in?

It's the main focal point and work zone of this space. Paul is able to cook here, with friends sitting opposite on bar stools, and the wine fridge close by. He also faces the dining and living areas and so isn't cut off from the conversation. The shelving at the end of the island is great for cookery books, but they also create a homely and colourful feel as you enter the room.

Describe the furniture and finishes?

The handleless +Segmento cabinetry lends itself to the crisp, contemporary design of the room. The combination of white wall units and a black island introduce contrast and definition,

while their matt finishes soften the look.

We added vertical aluminium finger channels to the tall cabinets, which add a subtle edge, and a horizontal top rail to the black island. The drawers below operate on a touch-motion electric-drive system, so there are no other recesses, just a simple, clean finish.

Why is this design successful?

It's understated, clean and precise, which was very much Paul's vision for the room. To create that level of simplicity requires a lot of time, thought and attention to detail, so everything's immaculately lined up and finished. The end result proves that it was time well spent.



Social centre

A wine fridge on the end of the island allows guests to help themselves without entering the cooking zone



Let's be seated

Large retro-style chairs add colour and interest to the neutral dining area

BELOW

Inside out

The floor tiles are carried through to the patio for a seamless transition

The details

CABINETRY +Segmento units in Polar White laminate and matt black lacquer, with aluminium rails by Poggenpohl. Kitchens start from £25,000

SURFACES Pure White quartz worktops and splashback, about £2,400, Poggenpohl. Terra Maestricht floor tiles, from £60.91sq m, Mosa

APPLIANCES Built-in oven, £1,279; combi microwave, £686; warming drawer, £380; integrated dishwasher, £770, all Siemens. Gas hob, £1,450, Gaggenau. For a similar side-by-side fridge-freezer try AEG, £2,014. Built-in wine fridge, £1,850, Miele. Stratus ceiling extractor, from £1,392, Westin

SINKS AND TAPS Claron 550-U stainless steel sink, £440; Claron 180-U stainless steel sink, £180, both Blanco. For similar taps try Blanco Periscope-S-F II, £513 each, Kitchensinks & Taps

FINISHING TOUCHES Hm58 bar stools, from £458 each; Hm86 dining chairs, from £960 each, all Hitch Mylius. Punt Mitis dining table, £1,992; Vitra Grand Repos lounge chair, from £3,130; Vitra Organic chair, from £1,359; Santa & Cole Tripode floor light, £523; Kettal Landscape outdoor sofa, price on application, all Nest Muuto Unfold black pendant lights, £119 each, Occa-Home. Copper Bronze pendant light, £375, Tom Dixon



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Change of plan

Sally and Alister's plans for their oven had to change when Historic Scotland insisted that they retain the original marble fireplace. 'We had hoped to put a range in the fireplace but couldn't do that with the mantelpiece. Instead we chose fitted ovens and an induction hob, which is brilliant,' says Sally



History in the making

THE MCFARLANES MOVED THEIR KITCHEN FROM A TINY GALLEY TO A SPACIOUS LIVING ROOM TO CREATE A PERFECT SPACE FOR COOKING AND ENTERTAINING

Feature MAIRI MACDONALD Photography DOUGLAS GIBB



Project profile

THE OWNERS Sally McFarlane, a front-of-house manager for a catering company, and her chef husband Alister

THEIR HOME A three-bedroom flat in a Georgian conversion in Edinburgh

THE PROJECT The old kitchen was a small galley to the side of the house, which hadn't been updated since the 1950s. Sally and Alister moved the kitchen into what was originally the drawing room

ROOM SIZE
5 x 10m

DESIGNER Karen Campbell at Harvey Jones in Edinburgh

CABINETRY
Shaker primed units with black American walnut worktop on island and African black leather granite worktop. Kitchen cost, without appliances, from £16,000, Harvey Jones

BUDGET £31,000

**'WE WANTED A KITCHEN
THAT IS SYMPATHETIC
TO THE AGE AND STYLE
OF THE BUILDING, YET
IS STILL YOUNG AND
CONTEMPORARY'**



Party planner

Moving the kitchen into a larger room has created a space for Sally and Alister to enjoy newly married life entertaining their friends. 'With the high ceilings, walls large enough for art and wooden floors, the room still looks smart,' says Sally. 'The only difference is we don't have to rush next door to prepare the food.'

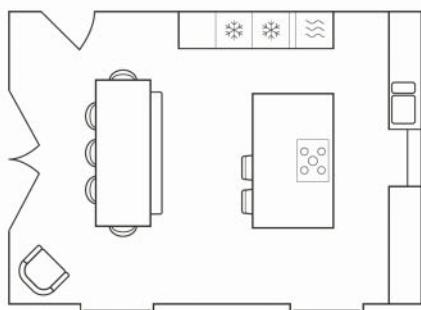
When Sally and Alister McFarlane bought the upper conversion of a Georgian house in Edinburgh's New Town, it had been untouched since being divided into two homes in the 1950s. 'It had been derelict for years,' explains Sally. 'The kitchen had Formica worktops and worn-out lino, and was in a tiny side annexe. We wanted to move it into what would have once been the drawing room.'

Sally and Alister hired Somner Macdonald Architects to manage the renovations. 'As the building is listed, the drawings, plans and tender took six months to complete, during which time Alister and I ripped out the old kitchen, cleared out rubbish and chose our new scheme,' says Sally. 'By the time the building warrant came through, we were ready to start.'

Alister, a chef, was very definite about the type of layout he wanted. Working with Karen Campbell from Harvey Jones, he and Sally designed a working, practical space with the kitchen at one end of the room, an island in the middle and the dining table at the other end.

'Although we were determined not to compromise practicality and the original features, we wanted a place to party and to entertain,' says Sally. Since the kitchen, dining and living rooms all run together, it was important that the kitchen looked more like a reception room than a workspace. 'To achieve this, we sanded the floor throughout for continuity and hung large paintings in both the cooking and the dining area,' she explains. 'We also had shelves instead of wall units which, together with the traditional units and island, would blend the kitchen with the rest of the space. The units were painted in contemporary blue and grey and, to give it a more modern edge, we accessorised with dark grey pendant lights and edgy bar stools.'

The layout





All in proportion

The elegance of the original drawing room is maintained with the high ceilings and large windows, yet the kitchen is not overwhelmed by the size and stature of the room

DESIGN SOLUTION *Karen Campbell says...*

What was your brief?

It was important that it looked like a kitchen owned by young people, yet was still in harmony with the age and style of the building. The McFarlanes chose classic units in strong colours, box shelves instead of wall units and fun light fittings to keep it looking modern.

How does the layout work?

Sally and Alister wanted to be able to eat breakfast at the island and look out the windows. At one stage, we were going to have the units along the long wall but then they would have had their backs to the view. What did work was having the kitchen at one end of the room with the island separating the prep zone and dining area. Double doors open into the living room, creating one large open-plan reception space.

As it is a listed building, did you have any restrictions?

We wanted to run a bank of units along the far wall with a freestanding range where the fireplace is, but Historic Scotland wouldn't allow us to remove the original marble mantelpiece. It's

now painted the same colour as the island and is an integral part of the room.

Tell us about the storage

To the left of the fireplace is a double unit under the sink and a double dish drawer. To mirror this on the right, we fitted a double and a single unit of drawers. The island has two large pan drawers and two single cupboards as well as a double cupboard for plates on the side nearest the dining table. There is also storage for food in a large pull-out larder next to the fridge freezer. There is another cupboard above the fridge freezer and above and below the integrated ovens. The open shelves provide more storage for glasses, vases and jars.

Any favourite features?

The original plan was to have a range cooker where the fireplace was but because we had to keep the mantelpiece, we chose an induction hob in the island instead. Alister had never cooked on one before and was worried he wouldn't like it, but it has become his most-loved item.

The details

CABINETRY Shaker primed units, £771.33 for a 600mm base unit, Harvey Jones, painted in Duke's Blue eggshell; island painted in 1952 Grey eggshell, both £18.98 for 2.5 litres, Crown

SURFACES Black American walnut worktop on island, from £600lin m; African black leather granite worktop, from £864lin m, both Harvey Jones. Walls painted in Whisper of Dramatic emulsion, £9.73 for 2.5 litres, Crown Paints

APPLIANCES AquaAssist multifunction single oven, £1,189; in-line multifunction oven with microwave, £931; 29cm warming drawer, £415; 90cm induction hob, £970, all Neff. Fully-integrated double dish drawer, £1,018, Fisher & Paykel. Stainless steel fridge, £1,554, Rangemaster. All supplied by Harvey Jones

SINK AND TAP One-and-a-half bowl sink, £500, Franke; Monobloc tap, £425, Sterling, both supplied through Harvey Jones

FINISHING TOUCHES Downlighting from shelves, £80, supplied through Harvey Jones. Pendants above island, Toldbod, £120 each, Louis Poulsen at Nest.co.uk. Big Bang pendant light shade, £637, Foscarini. Kristalia BCN bar stools, £233, ambientedirect.com. Mighty Mac dining table, from £1,200; matching bench, from £590; purple moleskin chairs, £249 each, all Annie Mo's. Turquoise blue and soft grey tubby armchairs, £199 each, Made



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PLAN... *An architect or interior your project, solving problems, removing obstacles*



If the size, shape or style of the kitchen in your home doesn't bear any resemblance to the one in your dreams, it's time to call in the experts. Sometimes, a talented kitchen designer will be able to suggest structural tweaks that create a better space, but for anything that extends beyond the units and layout, you may well benefit from extra help.

The most successful kitchens – with a

fabulous island, seamless transition into the garden and beautifully coordinated soft seating – are now rarely the work of just one design talent. They're usually created by a crack team of kitchen designer, architect and interior designer working in tandem to open up ceilings, knock down walls and coordinate surfaces, colours and finishing touches. Creating more space or natural light tops the wishlist of major changes, closely

*designer will give a whole new view on
and realising potential you never knew existed*



followed by the desire for a more sociable or multifunctional scheme, then increased storage, improved flow and design cohesion.

A trained professional can totally transform your space, making it look and work far better.

'We spend a great deal of time understanding how our clients live and use their home, and we also encourage them to expand their sense of what is possible,' says interior designer Kirsty McMorron of Absolute Abode.

DesignSpace London's director Keith Atkins employed architect Martin Reynolds to help ensure the rear extension of his own home makes the most of the available space, and that his new Modulnova kitchen opens seamlessly onto the garden. Cabinetry from £25,000

CALLING IN THE PROFESSIONALS

Unless your project is relatively simple, it makes sense to at least talk to an architect and/or interior designer about your options. If it looks like spatial improvements will require significant construction for example, knocking down walls, extending into the garden or digging a new basement – then you really will benefit from employing an architect. Not only can they come up with initial design concepts and technical drawings, but they will also guide you through the planning and construction process, and can manage the entire project from start to finish if required.

'Architects work with clients to develop designs that interpret ideas imaginatively, and look for ways to make alterations that fulfil their aspirations and vision for the space – style, colour, materials, lighting and so on,' explains architect Russell Earnshaw of Architecture and Design Partnership. 'Architects are professional problem solvers who enjoy the challenge of providing a service that extends well beyond simply producing a set of drawings that will just conform and gain the necessary approvals.' For those facing structural rather than complex design/material challenges, a chartered architectural technologist may prove a good option. Trained more heavily in the technical side of architecture, they take less time to qualify so can prove to be more affordable on smaller projects such as a simple rear extension.

Going beyond mere fabric coordination, interior designers excel at creating an inviting atmosphere, establishing focal points and softening the kitchen's hard surfaces. They are also trained in spatial planning and can do wonders for the room's functionality and flow. 'Having a three-dimensional sense of the room

and an ability to imagine how it could look following any alterations is the fundamental key to good design,' says interior designer Stephen Clasper. 'This comes from experience and product knowledge as well as creativity and imagination. "I would never have thought of doing that" is a phrase I frequently hear.'

FINDING THE RIGHT PERSON

When you are inviting any professional to make significant alterations to your home, it's always reassuring if they come highly recommended. Ask friends and family, post on social networks or introduce yourself to the owners of properties in the area who are having similar work done. Your kitchen designer, who will be familiar with local architects and interior designers, can also advise on potential candidates. If a particular practice has caused endless headaches on a previous install, or has a reputation for running over schedule, your kitchen designer probably won't hold back.

The architect and interior design industries are both supported by professional bodies that can provide a shortlist of members in your area. Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) offers the peace of mind that its accredited practices comply with strict criteria regarding insurance, health and safety, and quality management systems. British Institute of Interior Design (BIID) is similarly scrupulous about its members, who must follow a stringent code of conduct. For an architectural technologist try The Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT).

As well as checking professional training and qualifications, you should look for a company with experience in small residential projects of the type you are considering. Some architectural agencies

Architect Stephen Fletcher drew up plans to add an entirely new basement level in this Chelsea home, which is now dedicated to a semi open-plan kitchen-diner/living area that's ideal for both relaxed family life and sophisticated entertaining. The bespoke kitchen is by Mowlem & Co, prices start from £30,000



THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

What architects and designers can bring to the table...

■ Planning permission can be both straightforward or a bureaucratic nightmare – especially if you live in a conservation area or listed property. An architect can help you push the boundaries to enable you to achieve the seemingly impossible or come up with clever solutions when you're bound by red tape.

■ Structural know-how isn't just about deciding which wall is holding the house up. A professional appraisal of your property's structure can really uncover the possibilities. Changing a roof line might result in extra mezzanine space

above your kitchen, or digging down could provide a whole new level, while simply blocking one internal doorway might allow a far more efficient layout.

■ Project management can help your renovation run smoothly, on time and on budget. Most architects and interior designers will offer a full turnkey service, meaning you can rest easy safe in the knowledge that your kitchen is in expert hands.

■ Spatial awareness is a technical skill that allows trained professionals to 'see' your space in 3D. It can explore the full

potential of your kitchen and often enables the flow or layout to be transformed without the need for any costly building work.

■ Creating colour schemes that will work across the entire room and beyond is an art that many struggle to pull off. A skilled interior designer will create moodboards that reflect your style and taste, and recommend colours and patterns that you might not have considered. They are also great at introducing different textures and materials that will soften the space and make it feel more homely and welcoming.



Interior designer Kate Haynes, from EHG Design & Build, was commissioned to coordinate textures and finishes in this elegant bespoke design by Higham, priced from £45,000



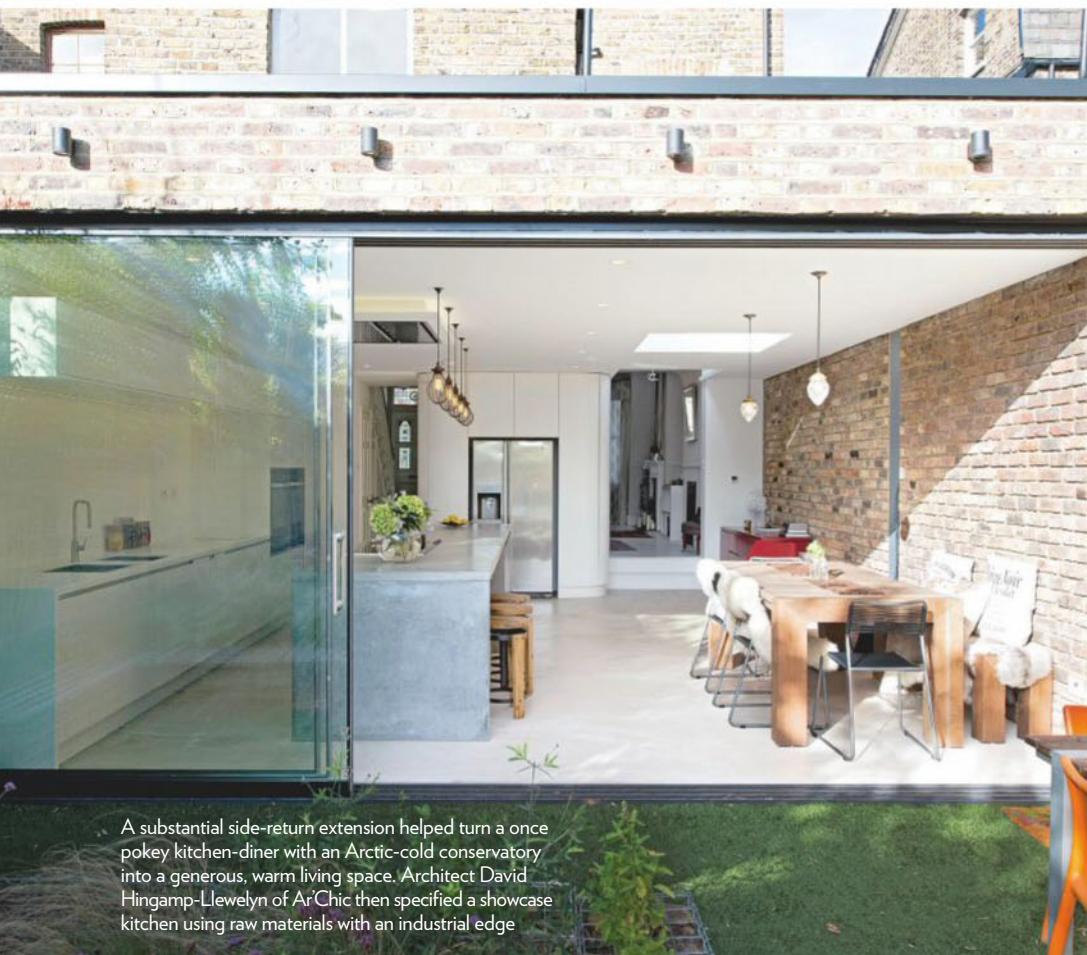
'With today's kitchens becoming holistic living spaces, it can pay to get expert advice on how to bring textures, materials and colours together' **Melanie Rademacher, Mena Interiors**



Reinhard Weiss from 3s Architects used structural glazing to introduce a shaft of natural daylight into this rear extension. The modern Matrix cabinetry is priced from £30,000



Steve Johnson of MJF Architects knocked through several rooms and added a glazed extension to achieve this bright L-shape scheme. 1909 units, from £20,000, enhance the Edwardian proportions of the property



A substantial side-return extension helped turn a once pokey kitchen-diner with an Arctic-cold conservatory into a generous, warm living space. Architect David Hingamp-Llewelyn of Ar'Chic then specified a showcase kitchen using raw materials with an industrial edge



'An interior designer's ability to bring colour, materials and texture to a project can enormously enhance a kitchen scheme' Andrew Hall, Woodstock Furniture



specialise in commercial contracts or will only deal with whole-home projects, while others won't touch any jobs below a certain budget. Likewise, not all interior designers will come in for just one room. If planning permission is required, it also helps if the person you're going to be dealing with (as well as the company as a whole) has a good relationship with your local planning officers and a strong track record for gaining approval on the first attempt. Also, be sure to always follow up references from past clients, and don't be afraid to question details such as how good they were at managing budgets, other trades and time frames.

MAKE YOUR PERFECT MATCH

It's advisable to book a consultation with at least three companies – the initial meeting is usually free – to make sure they're on your wavelength. Before commissioning an architect, it's important to establish that they will have your best interests in mind, and not get carried away with the excitement of designing a dynamic all-singing, all-dancing structure. Ask to see photos or videos of past projects, looking out for any that strike a chord. Discuss whether you'd like the building work to blend with the existing property, or stand proud as a new addition.

Each planning authority has its own adopted policies on such matters and your architect should be fully conversant on what is likely to be passed easily, as well as ways to achieve exactly what you want without falling foul of the law. 'One current loophole in Planning Law that's helpful where a different visual approach is sought, is that extensions on the rear of a house, where kitchens and dining rooms are frequently located, can often be built under permitted development rights. This means the local planning authority will have no veto on aesthetics,' explains Russell Earnshaw. 'However there are many provisos to permitted development rights,

so it would always be wise to appoint an architect from the outset to guide the design process.'

Your initial meeting with an interior designer is the time to establish if they 'get' your desired style. Though any good interior designer will be flexible, they often have a signature look that their customers buy into, or they might have a stronger skill-set in either traditional or contemporary design. Seek a designer that can translate your ideas – you want to come away from a meeting feeling inspired rather than anxious.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

Before hiring any professional service, you must be upfront about your budget and find out what you'll be getting for your pennies. Although architects and interior designers' fees can appear hard to justify, they can actually save you money in the long run by suggesting more affordable solutions and coming up with clever ways to work with the existing space. There are no hard-and-fast rules when it comes to charging for design expertise. Fees are often dependent on the location and complexity of a project, and the level of service and time required. Some architects will charge a percentage of the overall project cost, while others require a fixed price one-off payment or can work to a flat day rate. If the projected fee is beyond your pocket, don't be afraid to ask if there are any ways to reduce costs by taking on some of the more menial work or project management yourself.

It's common practice for interior designers to charge a percentage fee on top of all the fittings, fixtures and equipment bought on your behalf, but they often pass along trade discounts so there's money to be saved. Day rates or a flat fees per room are also common. 'For kitchens, I charge an independent hourly consultancy and planning rate, which covers my time and advice,' says Jan McDermot of Walnut Designs. 'The client deals directly with the kitchen company regarding costs.'

KEY CONTACTS

ARB 020 7580 5861, arb.org.uk
The Architects Registration Board is the UK's statutory regulator of architects and has a searchable online database of around 34,000 architects.

BARK 020 7117 2656, bark.com
This free online service connects you with local interior designers and architects. Send a message, then interested professionals reply.

CIAT 020 7278 2206, ciat.org.uk
The leading qualifying body of chartered architectural technologists and technicians. Includes a member database.

BIID 020 7628 0255, biid.org.uk
View a library of inspiring images submitted by its members, plus a nationwide directory on The British Institute of Interior Design's website.

FIND AN ENGINEER 020 7235 4535, findanengineer.com
Database of structural engineering practices nationwide with at least one member affiliated to the Institute of Structural Engineers.

REDBOOK AGENCY 020 7060 6222, redbookagency.com
For a fee, this matchmaking

service will find the perfect architect, interior designer or garden designer for your project,

RIBA 020 7580 5533, architecture.com
The Royal Institute of British Architects is a professional body for architects in the UK as well as internationally.

SBID 020 7738 9383, sbid.org
The Society of British and International Design has established best practice and a professional code of conduct for the interior design profession. Members also include architects.

THE LOOK... *a cook table or island combines style and practicality to be the working and socialising hub of your kitchen*

SOMEWHERE TO COOK, TO ENTERTAIN, to relax – that's the joy of having an open-plan kitchen. As we move towards multifunctional rooms that really do serve as the heart of the home, kitchen islands and, more recently, cook tables have come to take centre stage. The latest designs are generous, often having room for both the hob and the sink as well as providing plenty of work space. It's a setup that's inspired by the linear work pattern of the professional kitchen,

and it's also a sociable design, as the cook can look out into the room, rather than have their backs to their guests most of the time. As Tom Howley, creative director of Tom Howley Kitchens, says, 'An island is a lifestyle choice – everybody likes to gather round it, so it's a great place to be able to chat to your family and friends as you prepare meals.'

In a larger kitchen scheme, an island is particularly useful to bridge the gap, cutting down on legwork between spread

out units. It can be used to create a classic work triangle, keeping the key workstations of the sink, fridge and cooker within a few steps of each other, and it also provides a convenient place to set down bags when unpacking groceries. A long island will create a natural barrier, keeping children and guests away from the hot zone and, above all, with imaginative design and some striking pendant lights hung above, it can become the room's design centrepiece.



Shine on

A statement island with mirrors on all sides catches the eye in this striking kitchen design that combines modular elements to create an elegant room for entertaining as well as for cooking. It teams 3D patterns and herringbone parquet for a modern take on classic drawing room style. Neo kitchens by Nolte, from £17,500.



Grand central

Curved corners and a textured driftwood-effect finish soften the look of this substantial central island. It features unfussy integrated handles, a generous worksurface, built-in dishwasher, gas hob, and storage, plus an overhang breakfast bar for people to sit. Anola Driftwood kitchen, from £8,600, Caple.

Two into one

Here, an island forms the central bridge between two storage walls. It makes use of different heights and materials to create prep, washing up, serving and dining zones, with a linear island flying over on to a cantilevered dining 'table'. A side panel sweeping to the floor completes the immaculate design. G490 Blanco Mate and Cemento Mate kitchen, price on application, Porcelanosa.

*'An island tends to define the kitchen
and form a neat and transparent
division to the dining and living space'*

Laurence Pidgeon, kitchen designer



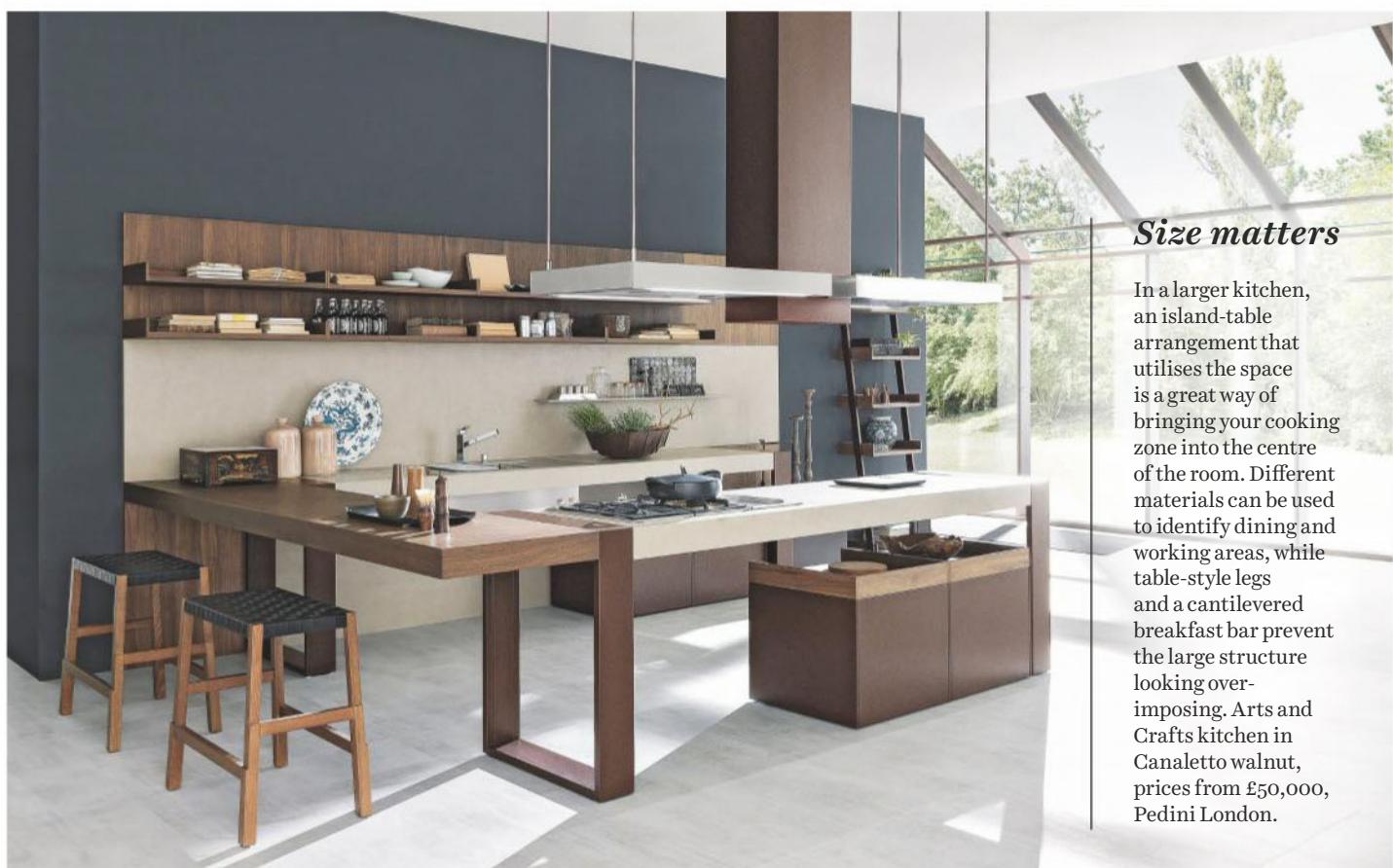
Raise the bar

If you want the look of a table with the storage potential of an island, this freestanding unit is a clever and stylish solution. It incorporates a marble worktop, a butcher's block that doubles as a breakfast bar and prep area, and spacious drawers and cupboards. Bespoke kitchens by Mowlem & Co from £30,000.



Modular mode

A freestanding island introduces industrial chic in this design by Danish brand Vipp. Steel units are coated in black or white and can incorporate hobs, sinks, taps, drawers and cupboards. Prices from £23,000 for a 3.8m wide island with gas hob and 4mm solid stainless steel worktop.



Size matters

In a larger kitchen, an island-table arrangement that utilises the space is a great way of bringing your cooking zone into the centre of the room. Different materials can be used to identify dining and working areas, while table-style legs and a cantilevered breakfast bar prevent the large structure looking over-imposing. Arts and Crafts kitchen in Canaletto walnut, prices from £50,000, Pedini London.



On the level

Units of varied heights are an effective way of differentiating areas of a multifunctional kitchen, incorporating zones for food preparation and cooking, serving, display, storage and seating. This Reno H Line kitchen is shown with an island in Heritage Grey, teamed with smoked oak-grained doors on the back wall. From £7,500, Masterclass Kitchens.



Action stations

An arrangement of islands brings the kitchen into the centre, creating a theatrical design that unites cook and guests. The larger island is for prepping and entertaining, the smaller two for cooking – one with gas hob, the other with teppanyaki and grill. Brasserie kitchen by Smallbone of Devizes, from £40,000.



Kitchen classic

In grand old country houses, a large wooden table with a lower pot shelf was usually the centrepiece. Today Martin Moore brings us this modern take on the design, made of natural oiled oak with gleaming chrome knobs, integrated sink and spray rinse tap. Kitchens from Martin Moore cost from £35,000.



Counter culture

The linear design of this Modulnova Twenty kitchen in Cemento White is accentuated by a block-shaped island and contrasting black granite sink and drainer. A solid bleached wood bar bridges the island to the storage wall, making a handy zone to serve and to put hot dishes. Compact ovens are concealed in the wall-mounted housing, with electric opening flap door. Kitchen prices from £25,000, from DesignSpace London.



Gather round

Combine modular elements for an unfitted look. A marble-topped table is surrounded here by grey lacquered cabinetry and stainless steel drawers. A glass cabinet and steel fridge and wine storage adds to the eclectic look, cleverly united by grey toned materials. Classic BeauxArts kitchen, from £25,000, SieMatic.



Top table

If you have plenty of wall storage, consider a cook table, which offers a lighter look than an island. Here, guests can sit where they like, rather than being restricted to a designated bar area. Elmar's Isola Cross freestanding stainless steel table with integrated sink and hob from Laurence Pidgeon, prices from £20,000.

'As the island will be the main feature in your kitchen, design it according to the way you like to use the space – baking with your kids, serving dinner or enjoying a glass of wine with your friends'

Tom Howley, kitchen designer

MAKE IT WORK FOR YOU

DO YOU WANT AN ISLAND OR A COOK TABLE? An island offers you the opportunity to include drawers, cupboards and built-in base-level appliances, such as a dishwasher, oven, fridge drawers and wine cabinets. A cook table may offer a lighter, less bulky look, but doesn't usually include more than a single pot shelf for storage. Consider your needs.

CHECK THAT YOU HAVE SUFFICIENT SPACE. Generally, you will need to allow at least 1m

around each side of a kitchen island to be able to move comfortably and easily through the working area. You may need to allow for even more space if you have cupboards or drawers in your island and on an opposite run of units.

THERE ARE NO RULES WHEN IT COMES TO THE SIZE of your island, although a hob will require 600mm to 900mm minimum, plus space of not less than 450mm each side for working room and safety.

CONSIDER WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ON YOUR WORKTOP, from a sink and tap to chopping blocks, waste chutes and power points for small appliances (try Evoline and S-Box for pop-up products). It may be an opportunity for you to include extra or specialist appliances, such as a tefanyaki plate, barbecue grill or wok burner (but remember to consider extraction that will provide adequate ventilation).

IF YOU HAVE ROOM, YOU MAY WANT TO INCLUDE

A BREAKFAST BAR (allow a worktop overhang of about 40cm minimum for this) or a dining area, which is built to a lower height for comfort.

CONSIDER HOW YOU WILL LIGHT THE DIFFERENT AREAS. A row or cluster of pendant lights hung above will accentuate the island's role as the kitchen focal point and gathering hub. You may also want to include a cross-over of downlights to avoid shadow when you're working at the island.

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G R E A T B R I T I S H K I T C H E N S



COOK... *The latest built-in ovens have more features and smarter controls that will revolutionise the way you cook, plus they look good, too*



Perfect symmetry creates a seamless look. CM209 34-litre combination microwave, £1,143; CM471 coffee machine, £1,752; pair of A-20% 66-litre capacity C2160 ovens with side-opening doors, £1,199, all Caple

If you haven't replaced your oven for a few years, then you're in for a treat. Modern cookers have changed immeasurably in a very short space of time and now even a mid-priced model can boast designer looks, self-cleaning programmes and even a full colour smartphone-style display. Manufacturers have been working hard to reinvent the fan oven for a new generation of cooks. Thanks to the popularity of programmes such as MasterChef and the availability of specialist ingredients in the supermarket, many budding chefs are looking to experiment at mealtimes and need the tools to help make results as simple and delicious as possible. From baking perfectly succulent roasts to the always-impeccable soufflé, the modern built-in oven is more reliable and intuitive than ever. With integrated computers replacing basic dials, you can now create the ideal conditions for a host of dishes and, with new steam-injection designs, bread develops a delicious crust and meat stays moist. But the most significant thing about all the latest cooking technology is that it really is now very easy to use. Thanks to tablet-style control panels, you no longer have to understand cooking symbols or keep the instruction booklet close to hand. Instead, you can simply tap a photo, follow simple step-by-step on-screen instructions and let the oven do the rest.

SIZE CONSIDERATIONS

There are now three main types of single ovens: the standard 60cm built-in design, the compact 38cm- or 45cm-tall models, and the professional-style 70-90cm.

A typical single oven measures H60 x W60 x D55cm and can be mounted into a standard undercounter unit – generally beneath the hob – or in a tall column unit – either on its own, above a warming drawer or alongside a compact appliance to create a more bespoke double oven. Expect between 50-70 litres of useable space, which is more than enough to cook a roast for the family

but, if you require extra room, look for designs with more than two shelves.

Double ovens are also available and measure around H90 x W60 x D55cm and have one large fan and one smaller static heat cooker. While the double oven provides plenty of capacity, compact designs allow you to create a far more flexible cook centre tailored to the way you cook.

Compact combination models come in either 38cm or 45cm tall and have between 30-50 litres of space. Choose from combination steam or combination microwave designs, as well as steam and

microwave only. There are also built in coffee machines in this format. Designed to replace the traditional double cooker, they can be mounted alongside a full-sized oven in a typical double-oven slot or paired with a warming drawer to fit in a standard 60cm oven cavity. Many kitchen designers now favour banking several compact appliances side by side or in a grid to create a complete wall of cooking devices.

For anyone who regularly entertains, extra-large 70-90cm professional-style ovens from companies such as Miele and Wolf are becoming increasingly popular. With more





Zanussi's ZOS37902XD Easy Steam oven, £599, has 74 litres of cooking space, but still fits neatly into a standard 60cm cavity, while managing a A-10% energy rating



This stylish combination steam oven, the Baumatic BCS45TS Premium Line, £800, has 60 preset recipes, steam-assisted roasting and a quick 15-minute steam clean cycle



New from Whirlpool, the Absolute range features a central control dial and sparkling white LEDs. AKZ 618/IX oven, £300; AMW 505/IX microwave, £500

than 90 litres of space and pinpoint accurate temperature settings, they offer the closest thing to a commercial oven at home.

Whirlpool has just launched an induction oven featuring a large removable hotplate that can speed up one-pot cooking. But will it catch on? Only time will tell, but surely anything that saves time and effort in the kitchen has to be worth considering.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Contemporary ovens are incredibly efficient. Look for a minimum A-rated built-in model, but A+, A++ and even A+++ are also now

available (each + is 10% more efficient than the previous rating). If you're struggling to make up your mind between two similar designs, look at the energy consumption figure (kWh) on the label so you can find out which one is more efficient.

COOKING WITH STEAM

Professional chefs have been fans of steam ovens for years, but as so often happens, the home kitchen market is catching up fast and sales of these types of appliances have grown by a rapid 146% over the last three years. And it's easy to see why, as Raymond

FIRST CLASS FEATURES

Even the most basic oven now has multiple cooking options, but spend just that little bit more and you'll be treated to a whole new world of hi-tech, labour-saving functions.

PYROLYTIC CLEANING A pyrolytic mode burns away grease and residue at very high temperatures (500°C), leaving just a small pile of ash to wipe away. Once available only on high-end designs, it can now be found on many mid-priced models.

AUTO-COOKING This takes the guesswork out of mealtimes – just choose a recipe from the menu (on some models you can even programme your own) press start and let the oven do the rest. Using built-in sensors (and meat probes in some instances), it will set the time and temperature and adjust the heat, plus with combi-steam designs, it also controls the moisture content during cooking to ensure perfect results.

HI-TECH CONTROL Smartphone-style control panels are now available on a wide selection of ovens – from Bosch to Beko – with large full-colour and even touch-screen displays, making it far easier to use features such as sensor cooking and auto-recipe modes.

VERSATILE DOORS If you have trouble lifting pans over a drop-down door, or want to mount at chest height, look for side-opening ovens from Wolf and Gaggenau, or the 'Slide & Hide' door from Neff, which slips underneath the cavity completely.

Laidlaw, national training manager for Electrolux Major Appliances, explains, 'If you're a passionate chef, cooking with steam will ensure that all your joints of meat, bread, cakes and pastries are crispy on the outside, but remain moist or fluffy on the inside.'

Traditional steam-only ovens provide gentle cooking for a whole host of recipes, while maintaining nutritional content, colour and texture. They can also be used to gently defrost, and can sterilise jam jars and baby bottles. However, modern combination steam ovens are becoming



Operated using intuitive M Touch controls, this H6860 BP oven from Miele, £3,099, offers 11 different functions for maximum versatility, including a moisture function that prevents food from drying out and automatic programmes that take the fuss and hassle out of cooking

more popular with home cooks who are looking to release their inner MasterChef.

COMBINATION OVENS

As a rule, a hot-air oven will use top or bottom, fan and grill heat for cooking, but a combination oven will also boast steam or microwave technology (or even both). By using conventional heat and steam together, the oven creates a moist environment that's great for cooking meat joints and perfectly bakes loaves and cakes. Available in either 60cm or 45cm, it's ideal for any size of kitchen.

AEG has a combination oven that can be used for sous vide – when food is vacuum sealed and cooked slowly in warm

water. Combination microwaves are also worth considering if you're lacking in time. By using grill and/or fan heat alongside microwave technology, you can decrease cooking times and roast a chicken in 30 minutes.

WARMING DRAWERS

These can be used for slow cooking and dough proving, not just keeping dishes warm. Available in 14cm and 29cm tall designs, they seamlessly match up with compact ovens and fit in a standard 60cm cabinet slot.

HIGH STYLE

Thanks to new materials and smarter designs, appliances can now be both pretty and practical,

as Owain Harrison, marketing director for Baumatic, explains, 'Manufacturers now design their ranges in "families", so whatever size or specification model you choose, the control panels and trim share the same design style.' Hi-gloss frameless glass appliances are a popular alternative to basic metal and look superb in a sleek modern kitchen. Those options with hi-tech touch-screens and minimalist dials look particularly impressive.

For professional-style models, stainless steel remains a firm favourite and works well in both traditional and modern settings. But whichever design you fall for, make sure the handles, controls and trim all match, as this will help to create long, elegant sight lines.

For stockist details go to pages 126 and 129



DESIGN THE PERFECT COOK CENTRE

- The simplest configuration consists of a 60cm and 45cm oven slotted seamlessly into a double oven cavity. It will offer greater flexibility than a standard double oven as you can choose between steam, combi or microwave, but take up no more space.
- Two compact appliances and two 60cm ovens look superb mounted at eye level in a grid and provide unrivalled capacity and cooking options – even a coffee machine.
- T-shaped layouts look great with two 45cm appliances to the left and right, with a coffee machine in the middle and a 60cm oven with a warming drawer beneath.

'COORDINATING FRONT PANELS ACROSS OVENS, EXTRACTOR HOODS, BUILT-IN DISHWASHERS AND COFFEE MACHINES ENSURE EACH APPLIANCE SITS SEAMLESSLY WITH ONE ANOTHER'

Charlotte Moran, group marketing manager, Siemens



POUR...

Boiling-water taps – are they really worth the hype or more like a lot of hot air?

What are they?

Essential kit of the moment, these counter- or sink-mounted taps, deliver boiling water (or as good as) on demand. So you can make tea, fill pans for pasta and do away with your kettle, leaving worktops nice and clear.

And how do they work?

Essentially just like an electric shower, only hotter. Water is drawn from the mains and rapidly heated by an electric element and then stored in a highly-insulated tank. Not all designs are capable of dispensing water at exactly 100°C. Some can only manage around 98°C and, while that won't make much difference when cooking, tea connoisseurs may take exception.

How much water can the tank hold?

Tank size varies from around two to five litres, which will easily fill the

largest of teapots – even a small two-and-a-half-litre tank will have enough boiling water for at least eight mugs of tea. And as the tank empties, it heats more, so there's always hot water on demand.

So the water comes straight from the mains?

Yes, but with a small diversion. Most hot-water taps also have a filtration system to draw out impurities and to stop limescale clogging it up, which is important in hard-water areas. So the water passes through this first.

Where is the tank located?

This can be one of the downsides. The cylinders, filters and tanks, which are part and parcel of this type of tap, will take up a fair bit of cupboard space. Most systems will fit into a single 60cm base unit, but don't expect there to be much room for anything else.

Does it work separately from the standard hot/cold taps?

These days there is plenty of choice so you can have a standalone tap on your worktop or choose from one of the many 3-in-1 tap designs that supply both mains hot, cold and boiling water controlled by a three-lever mixer tap over your sink.

Are there many advantages having 3-in-1?

These tall taps have the benefit of being able to fill large pans easily, and there's no overflow system to worry about. But the biggest gain is what goes on below. Most have tanks that are designed to make the most of the under-sink area, which already houses the waste pipe, trap, dishwasher and washing machine pipes.

What happens if I turn on the boiling water by mistake – it sounds dangerous!

All boiling-water taps are fitted with a safety lock such as Quooker's double push-and-turn system, so it's impossible to activate the boiling water without releasing this first. Steve Rutter, marketing manager at Franke, goes as far as saying, 'Fixed taps are inherently safer than a freestanding kettle or a pan full of water on the hob.'

Can these types of tap supply anything else?

Yes. It's possible to streamline your kitchen with just one tap for everything, and even

With its hi-tech touch controls, the Quatreo tap, from £2,999, can dispense precise-temperature hot, chilled and sparkling water

BELOW
InSinkErator's 3N1 tap supplies hot, cold and up to 98°C steaming-hot water. It comes in zingy orange, natural stone, white and steel finishes, £849

THE ESSENTIALS

STANDALONE BOILING-WATER TAPS

The original hot-water dispenser remains popular but you will need to get a hole drilled into your worktop, or alongside your existing tap on the sink. The classic Zip HydroTap can often be found in large offices (including ours), and is available in many configurations including hot/cold, hot/ambient and hot/cold/sparkling. Meanwhile, InSinkErator's GN1100 is a dedicated and discreet hot-water tap suited to small kitchens.

2-IN-1 The most popular choice combines traditional mixer with boiling

water to give the best of both worlds from one smart, space-saving tap. The Quooker Fusion features an innovative – and extra-safe – dispensing method, just lift the dial and twist for instant boiling water, or simply use the mixer handle for mains hot and cold. Similarly, the new AEG ProSource offers instant purified boiling, hot and cold water – all from a compact mixer-tap design.

MULTIFUNCTION The ultimate tap for your kitchen can now dispense hot and cold mains water, filtered and chilled, boiling and carbonated, all from a single stylish spout. Zip's HydroTap

All-in-One does just that, but no other tap can quite match the Quatreau thanks to its LCD touch display and ability to dispense boiling, chilled and sparkling water as well as thermostatically-controlled preset temperature hot and cold mains water.

FILTER TAPS If you're wedded to your kettle or don't want the expense of a boiling-water tap, there is a range of two-in-one taps that can dispense regular hot and cold water as well as filtered. They still require a small filter tank under the sink but cost from around £199. Try Brita.

The AEG ProSource is a stylish 3-in-1 tap that delivers fresh, purified, boiling, hot and cold water, and is available in four- or eight-litre tank versions, from £999





It's so good we've got one in the *Beautiful Kitchens* office.
Zip HydroTap Sparkling All-In-One offers instant filtered boiling, chilled and sparkling water, from £2,995

BELOW

Quooker's Fusion Square is available in polished or brushed chrome, and three tank sizes, from £1,150

'THE 3-IN-1 TAP DELIVERS A PRACTICAL AND EFFICIENT ALTERNATIVE TO A KETTLE, AND THERE'S A GREAT CHOICE OF DESIGNS' *Graeme Smith, Second Nature*

enjoy pure-filtered or carbonated water, as well as normal tap and instant boiling, all from the same unit,' explains Roger Wiltshire of Pure H2O. You can also have chilled water on tap, but bear in mind that built-in chillers and CO₂ cylinders for sparkling will take up extra space.

But don't they look a bit... industrial?

True, the early models did, but the latest hot-water taps by brands such as InSinkErator, Quattro and Grohe are every bit as appealing as most designer standard mixer taps.

My kitchen is very small so the clutter-free approach really

appeals, but I can't spare the cupboard space.

Some clever designs, including the Franke Minerva tap, have tanks that fit in the cabinetry plinth. And Perrin & Rowe has just launched a series of mini hot-water taps in a range of styles to suit all schemes.

Are hot-water taps energy efficient?

While it's true that they are significantly more efficient than a kettle, you won't notice massive savings. Although the system does ensure water remains hot, thus saving on reheating costs.

What are the running costs?
It varies. Quooker estimates it at 1p per litre (around 3p a day), while Grohe Red costs 12p a day

to maintain the water at 99°C. In comparison a full kettle costs around 2.5p per boil. These figures don't account for replacement water filters and CO₂ cylinders.

What's the retail price?

Think of this tap as a long-term investment. The most affordable options are InSinkErator's basic hot-water dispenser tap, £349, and the Joyou Aqualogic 3-in-1, £549, but expect to pay from £800 to £2,000 for a more advanced multifunction design.

Is specialist fitting required?

Specialist hot-water tap brands such as Zip offer professional fitting or recommend you use a plumber familiar with these taps. Your kitchen designer will be able to advise. Most other tap options are available for DIY installation, but seek expert advice beforehand.



KEY CONTACTS

BRITA (0844 742 4800, brita.co.uk) Leading multifunction filter-tap manufacturer.

GROHE (0871 200 3414, grohe.co.uk) This global tap brand has now expanded to include stylish, feature-packed boiling, chilled and carbonated designs.

INSINKERATOR (0800 389 3715, insinkerator.co.uk) Famous for waste-disposal units, it also offers good-value hot-water tap systems.

QUATREAU (01483 617000, quatreau.co.uk) The ultimate designer tap with touch-screen technology.

QUOOKER (020 7923 3355, quooker.co.uk) Has made hot-water taps since the 1970s, boasting cutting-edge features and design.

ZIP (0845 600 5005, zipheaters.co.uk) One of the few top tap brands with its own nationwide installation service.



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SURFACE... *The right splashback is both an attractive focal point and a finish that will unite a kitchen scheme*



There's no greater example of how kitchen planning and interior design have become intertwined than the splashback. Elevated from a purely practical role, these days it's also more of a statement piece, in a new choice of luxe materials and revived old favourites. Along with worktops, it's often the first element that's noticed in a kitchen, so designers are keen to make it count. 'Splashbacks are a key decision in a project,' explains Alex Beaugeard, design director at McCarron & Co. 'They carry significant aesthetic weight and there is a real appetite to experiment at the moment. I'm seeing artwork behind glass, plus resin bronze as well

as wallpapers. Some materials, such as marble, are prone to discolouring, but they're so beautiful we forgive them.' So what's on trend? Pairing metallics with crisp marble worksurfaces is popular, as are expanses of antiqued or smoked mirrors to make even the most compact design seem lighter and more welcoming. Similarly, black and grey stone splashbacks – widespread on the continent – are becoming more prevalent in the UK, as they're the perfect partner for furniture in pale grey or chalky white tones – plus, tiles are definitely back in fashion. Whatever you choose, play to the material's strength, adding a protective cover for less hardy finishes and using lighting to make the most of texture and fine patterns.



New vein (opposite)

If you love stone but having a big slab isn't feasible, stone tiles offer the beauty of natural vein patterns in a more workable format. Consider a different pattern other than the usual linear and grid formats – these tiles are 15 x 7.5cm Carrara polished marble, laid in a herringbone pattern, £76.80sq m, Mandarin Stone. Make sure all stone is sealed as recommended by the supplier and regularly resealed to protect from staining.

Mirror, mirror

Back-painted glass has been the go-to material for sleek modern kitchens for some time and has evolved to create all kinds of luxe finishes. This Glassology distressed silver-leaf finish, from £900sq m, gives an antique mirror effect, shown here in a bespoke handpainted oak Heritage kitchen, from £30,000, Mowlem & Co. All glass will need to be templated and cut to shape and size after your kitchen is installed.





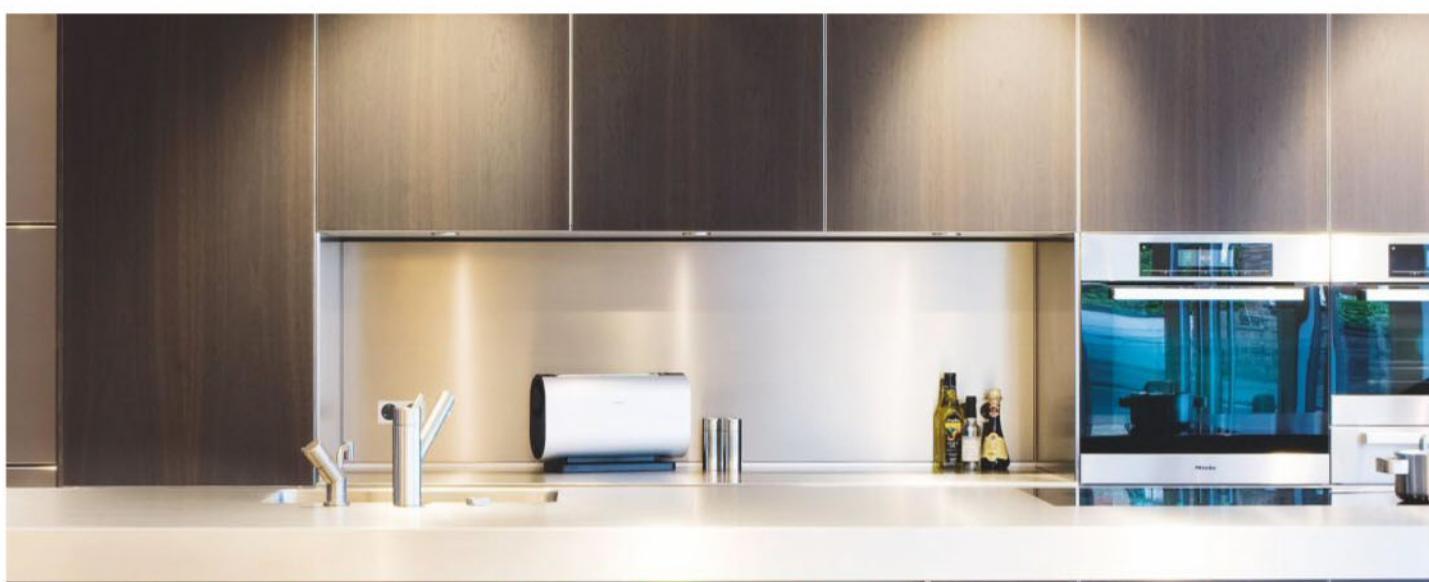
Art of glass

One option is to have an abstract photograph or pattern applied to the back of a custom-tempered glass surface. This bespoke splashback is a high resolution giclée print of an Icelandic mud pool by Matt Wain at Beeseye Fine Art. Splashback from £3,000, shown in a painted Metro kitchen by Richard Baker Furniture, from £30,000.



Paper pattern

Wallpaper, fabric or a painted design is an easy way to inject colour and life. Protect it behind well-sealed Perspex, a lacquer or toughened glass – ask for low-iron glass to avoid a greenish tinge. This bespoke Mosaic wallpaper, £250 per roll from Maison M, is in a bespoke fitted kitchen by Camille Hermand Architectures. Kitchens from £23,000.



Professional finish

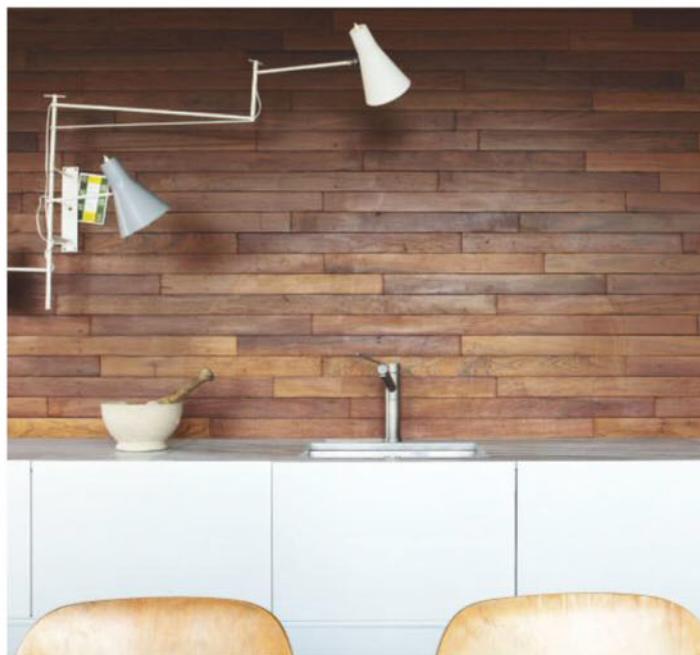
Hard-wearing, extremely heat resistant and hygienic, a stainless steel splashback is durable enough for anything the busiest kitchen can throw at it. It can scratch, however, so a brushed or patina finish is more forgiving. Off-the-peg panels are available for use in a single area, such as behind a range cooker, but otherwise, splashbacks will be made to measure. This kitchen design from £100,000, Bulthaup.





Hot metal

The ongoing trend for luxe metals such as copper has led to some eye-catching designs. Sheet metals coated with lacquer to reduce tarnishing are available from specialists such as Metal Sheets. These large-format glass tiles have copper foil encased in glass for a stable finish. Copper Leaf decorative glass tiles, £53.95 per 60 x 30cm tile or £299.95sq m, Glassworks range, Original Style.



PHOTOGRAPH: JO WILLIS

Natural choice

Wood has emerged as a surprising splashback material now that improved ventilation and better protective finishes are available. Timbers such as teak and iroko are naturally water resistant but will need to be acclimatised in situ before fitting. Splashback in hand-sanded salvaged teak strip wood, from £60sq m, Retrouvius.



Smooth operator

Polished plaster has a velvet texture and brings depth and movement to a wall. The plaster is mixed on site, applied to the wall and left to dry before polishing. It will withstand splashes but chips can't be repaired, so it's worth protecting busy areas with glass. Splashback in New York, £75sq m, Surfina, bespoke Urbo kitchen, from £35,000, Roundhouse.



Added dimension

Clever designers look for storage possibilities in all corners of the kitchen. A shallow recess behind a sink or hob can be the ideal spot to conceal washing-up liquid, spices and oils. Here, a glass door, which doubles as a splashback, conceals stainless steel shelves. It's part of the Dune unit, from £2,000, Pedini.



Making waves

The resurgence of tiles has thrown up some unusual geometric patterns, which are great for breaking up the pronounced vertical and horizontal lines of a kitchen. This undulating design is made of white and platinum glazed tiles with mother of pearl lustre, £1,600sq m, Alex Zdankowicz, in a kitchen by Johnny Grey, from £65,000.



Solid choice

Stone can work for all kitchens and there's a wide variety available. Bought as a slab, it's templated and cut to size. Pick bookmatched stone to give a continuous flow of heavily veined patterns across two or more slabs of stone – as seen here in a Carrara marble splashback. Bespoke Macassar kitchen, from £40,000, Smallbone of Devizes.



Rock hard

A material formed of refired lava stone from the slopes of Mount Etna can easily withstand the heat of a kitchen. Nerosicilia has a beautiful depth of colour, and glazing from recycled glass ensures it's shock, scratch, stain and chemical resistant. Nerosicilia glazed lava stone, shown in a bespoke Salinas kitchen, price on request, Boffi.



On the tiles

The huge resurgence in tiles has led to lots more choice – from sleek metro brick styles, to Moorish patterns, mosaics, embossed designs and everything in between. Play with colour, or pick and mix to create something striking. These tiles are handpainted, glazed lava stone, which is super tough and easy to clean. Fatto a Mano tiles in blue, white and black, and patterned, from £436sq m, Laurence Pidgeon.

MAKE IT WORK FOR YOU

WHEN FITTING BESPOKE stainless steel, stone, quartz composite, solid surface or glass splashbacks, make sure the specifications and measurements are correct as they're made to order. The templating procedure usually takes two to three hours. Lead time is seven to 10 working days but this varies by supplier.

FOR GLASS WITH A TWIST, add illumination. Glass suppliers can fit a prefabricated frame for LEDs or it can be mounted slightly proud of the wall to incorporate lights behind. If you can, opt for lighting that will change colour temperature, from cool white light for cooking to ambient warm tones for dining.

TILES ARE SIMPLE TO FIT, straightforward to repair or replace, can be installed as a DIY task, and

come in different types. Ceramic is the lowest maintenance, as it won't need sealing and will be waterproof after grouting, plus it's easy to cut. Harder to cut and shape while fitting, porcelain is a type of ceramic but it has a lower water absorption and is much more durable. It can also come glazed or as an unglazed version – which will need sealing and more regular cleaning. Ensure adhesive is completely dry before grouting and think about choosing a coloured grout such as deep grey to add definition.

USING DIFFERENT TEXTURES and types of stone can create stunning visual effects. One of these is bookmatching, a process where a slab of stone, such as marble or granite, is split at its thickest point to reveal the natural pattern in perfect symmetry.



DECORATE...

Blurring the boundary between indoors & out will add freshness to a kitchen and improve the flow between house and garden

HOT STUFF

Style needn't be limited to indoors – the humble barbecue can be a thing of beauty. Seek out an innovative sculptural design for alfresco eating with flair

Forno grill, £595, Morsø Living



FEATURE ALIX O'NEILL PHOTOGRAPHY TIMEINCUKCONTENT.COM, PR





SOLID STATEMENT

Don't skimp, choose a well-made dining table and chairs – it will set the tone for a stylish outdoor scheme.

Wind table, H76 x W100 x L150cm, £2,075;
Serena dining armchairs, H83 x W60cm,
£665 each, both Barbed



ROOM WITH A VIEW

If you've got a great garden, flaunt it. Work with your kitchen designer to create a layout that plays to its strengths and choose materials and finishes that sit comfortably with the vista

H bar stools, H75cm, £179 each; A stackable chairs, H85 x W51 x D46cm, £136 each, both Tolix at Made in Design

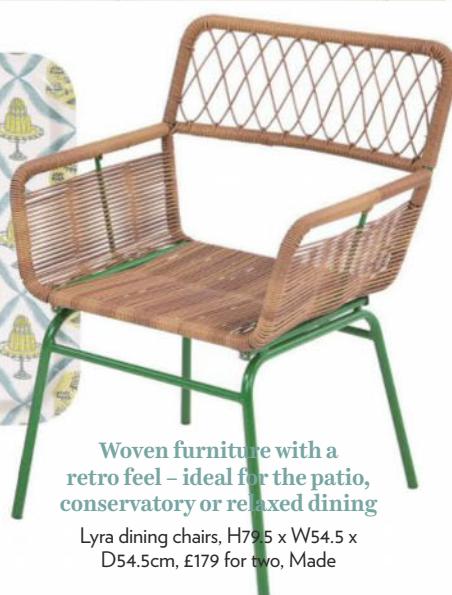
Pick flooring that's suitable indoors and out for a unified look

Portland tile, £64.33sq m, Porcelanosa



Serve cold drinks on this charming 1950s design

Teatime tray, 27 x 20cm, £18, Diana Bloomfield at Heal's



Woven furniture with a retro feel – ideal for the patio, conservatory or relaxed dining

Lyra dining chairs, H79.5 x W54.5 x D54.5cm, £179 for two, Made



Curve appeal
Bell table, H50.5 x Dia40cm, £408, Gloster





Outdoor furniture with indoors style

Gustav rectangular table, H76 x W200 x D100cm, £1,479, Vincent Sheppard

Geometric pattern will perk up a courtyard or patio

Tangier outdoor rug in Celery and White, 183 x 122cm, from £25, Fab Habitat



Bamboo is the perennial outdoor material

Raynor placemats, 30 x 40cm, £10 for a set of four, Habitat

For exotic entertaining on balmy summer nights

Moroccan painted lanterns, £85 for set of two, Rockett St George



ON FIRE

Gloriously worn and rusted, weathered steel is an on-trend choice for outdoor spaces. Use to create an abstract backdrop for a lounging area

Space designed by London Garden Designer using Cor-Ten steel panels, from £1,200 each. A Cor-Ten firepit like this starts at £54. Round Wood of Mayfield



LIVING WALL

Design a small garden or patio area immediately next to the kitchen as a backdrop to your scheme. Think about how materials and planting will work all year round, adding colour, texture and interest, and using pots and planters to highlight flowers in bloom

Grace metal garden bench is similar, H85 x W1,303 x D60cm, £120, Lazy Susan Furniture. Similar table, Ellister Regency round table is similar, H72 x Dia90cm, £130, Greenfingers.com



GREEN ROOM

A fresh botanical wallpaper is a great way to energise a scheme and add personality

Berry Tree wallpaper, £32 per roll, Scion. For a similar dining table try the Hemingway, H76 x W140 x D90cm, £1,350; Jensen Dangle cluster ceiling lights, £260 for nine, John Lewis



COLOUR PALETTE

Indian Blue matt emulsion, £39 for 2.5 litres, Sanderson

Mister Toad clay paint, £35 for 2.5 litres, Earthborn

Hummingbird matt emulsion, £35.50 for 2.5 litres, Fired Earth

Mister David absolute matt emulsion, £37 for 2.5 litres, Little Greene

Somerset Green garden shade, £23.49 for 2.5 litres, Cuprinol

Calming Stone garden paint, £16.39 for 2.5 litres, Johnstones



Ensure sunshine on a rainy day with this bright outdoor fabric

Canopy in Peridot, polypropylene, 138cm wide, £62.50m, Kirkby Design



Fill with a fresh bouquet to bring the outside indoors

Blue Imit stoneware vase, £395, The Conran Shop

MAKE IT WORK FOR YOU

USE THE SAME MATERIALS

indoors and out to help create a seamless transition between the two spaces.

MIX AND MATCH botanical print fabrics and team with a cream or white background for a kitchen that is both reviving and relaxing.

CHOOSE WEATHERPROOF FABRICS

and spare yourself the hassle of bringing furniture indoors during showers.

ENHANCE A COMPACT COURTYARD with unusual planting and materials. A garden designer will help you to really

make the most of the space.

EMBRACE COLOUR Summer calls for unapologetically vibrant shades.

VINTAGE FINDS are perfect for adding character and ambience. Look for ornate lanterns and weathered furniture – try The French House for this style.



Special ADDITION

A DILAPIDATED OLD GARAGE AT THE SIDE OF JACKIE GOLDENBERG AND JARED PEARL'S NEW HOME PROVIDED THE PERFECT PLOT FOR A CHIC KITCHEN EXTENSION

Feature MAXINE CLARKE Photography MIA LIND & LINDY CUMINGS



Easy on the eye

The simple painted MDF units from Sola Kitchens are paired with minimal furnishings to maintain the bright and spacious feel of the new extension



Matchy-matchy

The handle-free units and Silestone worktops are perfectly colour-matched for a smart monochromatic look

The kitchen was a big part of Jackie Goldenberg and Jared Pearl's whole-house renovation, and they asked architect George Young, who worked on their previous home, to create a bright, spacious open-plan scheme. 'Our last place was a very traditional design and a great success, but this was a much larger and more ambitious project,' says Jackie. 'It's an unusual property, with

the garden surrounding much of it, and we gave George total freedom to do his own thing.'

The existing kitchen was located at the back of the house, and George decided that a 1930s garage attached to the side of the building and leading to the garden was a much better location for it. He duly replaced the tired old garage with a roomy kitchen extension.

Of all the companies Jackie and Jared looked at, Sola Kitchens impressed them

Project profile

THE OWNERS Jackie Goldenberg, who's a freelance TV producer, her husband Jared Pearl, who works in the energy business, and children, Saskia, 10, and Julian, 9

THEIR HOME
A five-bedroom house in southwest London

THE PROJECT Replacing an adjoining garage with a large kitchen extension

ROOM SIZE 5.8 x 5.1m (kitchen area only)

DESIGNER Pia Rosling at Sola Kitchens

CABINETRY
Slätten painted MDF handleless units, and solid brushed-oak doors, £18,500, Sola Kitchens

BUDGET Around £39,000, excluding building work

the most. 'Our interior designer Sarah Berry recommended Sola to us,' says Jackie. 'Everything about the company is of an exceptionally high quality, and they customise the colours and dimensions as part of their service. Thanks to Pia Rosling's excellent design, the scheme works so well and I know where everything is and it's all neatly put away. It makes this open-plan area easy to keep tidy and is an absolute pleasure to live and work in.'

DESIGN SOLUTION *Designer Pia Rosling explains...*

What was your brief for this project?

When I discussed designing a kitchen for Jackie and Jared, they were very conscious about the budget and finishes. They also had clear ideas of what they liked, which included a muted earthy feel and colour scheme, and they didn't want any element to be too high up out of Jackie's reach.

Describe the main design considerations

We had to decide whether to have a sink or hob on the peninsula. Although it would have been easier to site the hob against the wall, in terms of ducting, we thought that including a sink would have made the unit look untidy. And, as Jackie doesn't like exact symmetry, we added drawer stacks to break up a long run of cupboards.

Were there any other special requests?

Jackie wanted to fit a lot of things under the sink, such as the waste-disposal unit, dust bin and the tank for a boiling-water tap. And because it was all very hard to squeeze in, we made the units a deep 680mm, which created more internal space and extra worktop area. Creating good access

to the other rooms from the kitchen was key, too. We had such a lovely room to work with and the layout we designed gives it good balance.

Tell us about the interesting design details

The flush-fitted peninsula hob looks really elegant and the huge three-door fridge freezer features front panels in the same material as the units, which helps disguise its size. The brushed-oak cabinet doors are also great features and very subtle.

Is that what you're most pleased with?

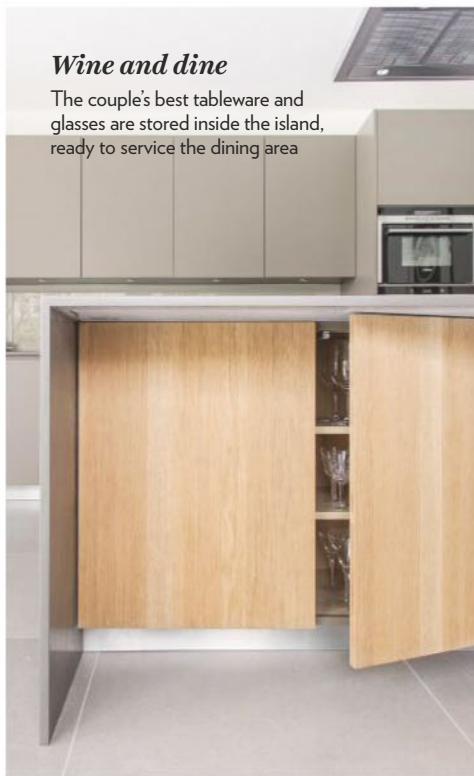
Yes, it is. We started by having the unit entirely made of oak but quickly decided to make a feature of the visible side with solid brushed-oak doors. We also thought about staining the natural wood, but it looked so amazing we decided to leave it as it was.

Did Jackie and Jared have lots of input?

Yes, and along with Sarah Berry, it was very much a team effort. We were all on the same wavelength with what we generally wanted to achieve. Jackie and Jared both have exquisite taste, which can be seen in their design choices throughout their house.

Wine and dine

The couple's best tableware and glasses are stored inside the island, ready to service the dining area



Warming wood

Timber touches, including the dining table and oak cupboards on the peninsula add texture and interest



The details

CABINETRY Slättan painted handleless MDF units, and solid brushed-oak doors, £18,500, Sola Kitchens

SURFACES 20mm Altaire suede-finish Silestone worktops, £5,360; Opticolour 6mm toughened-glass splashbacks, £480, both Sola Kitchens. 80 x 80cm Dove Limestone honed porcelain floor tiles, £100sq m, Stone & Ceramic Warehouse. **Wall paint**, White Cotton matt emulsion, £24 for 2.5 litres, Dulux

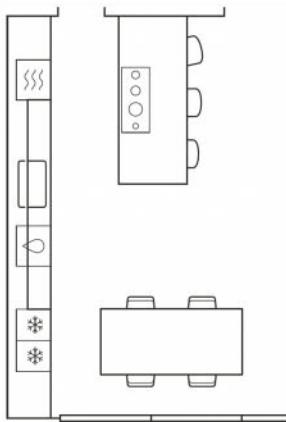
APPLIANCES Built-in single oven, £738; built-in steam oven, £1,010; induction hob, £714; built-in warming drawer, £337; island extractor hood, £456; fully

integrated dishwasher, £621; integrated fridge freezer, £3,957, all Siemens

SINK AND TAPS Blanco Claron 550-U single-bowl sink, £333; Blanco Linus-s monobloc mixer tap in chrome, 209, both Blanco. Boiling-water tap, £421; waste-disposal unit, £320, both Insinkerator

FINISHING TOUCHES Modern Refectory dining table, £2,000, Rustic Oak, would suit this space. Eames DSR chairs, £223 each, The Conran Shop. Zeus brown bar stools, £37 each, Lakeland Furniture, are a close match. Harmony Ribbon pendant light, £130, John Lewis. For a coffee machine like this one try Nespresso, from £90

The layout



'THE KITCHEN WAS THE MAIN ASPECT OF OUR HOME RENOVATION, BECAUSE FOR US IT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT ROOM IN THE HOUSE'



Let's go outside

The simple dining area is well positioned to take in views of the newly landscaped garden

THE ALL NEW FLAT WHITE



INTRODUCING THE ALL NEW WHITE DOOR ACTIVESMART™ FRIDGE FREEZER

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Fisher&Paykel

Beach life

The new kitchen in Annick Houle and Stephen O'Connor's holiday home is rich in natural beauty and robust enough to cope with sandy feet

Feature SARAH WARWICK

Photography EARL CARTER/TAVERNE AGENCY



Into the woods

White cabinetry, surfaces and accessories help break up the all-wood scheme, offering light relief and a contemporary edge

Architects Annick Houle and Stephen O'Connor felt they needed a weekend retreat for themselves and their 11-year-old twins, so they built a beach house in Pirates Bay in Victoria, Australia. 'It's a short-distance escape where we can wash away the working week,' says Annick. The house includes an open-plan zone with a kitchen, dining area and relaxed seating space. And like the rest of the house, it's elegantly simple.

'The interior evolved over a long period of time, during which we slowly realised we didn't want any plastered walls,' says Annick. 'If you've been out in the burning sun, it's nice to get into a shady house,

and timber is much more forgiving and in keeping with the tradition of the unadorned beach house.' As for the design of the room as a whole, Annick and Stephen wanted to complement the style of the local low-maintenance shacks tough enough to survive the beach-side location. Made from white mahogany outside and tallow wood inside, it has the fuss-free style typical of Scandinavian design. 'The clean, timber-lined look is also very Canadian,' says Annick, who's from Canada originally. Employing durable and sustainable materials and fittings was important to the couple, together with low-toxicity finishes and low-embodied energy materials.



Project profile

THE OWNERS Annick Houle and Stephen O'Connor, founders and principals of O'Connor and Houle Architecture in Melbourne, and their 11-year-old twins

THEIR HOME Three low-timber pavilions with three bedrooms and a guest house in Pirates Bay in Victoria, Australia

THE PROJECT Creating an open-plan kitchen, dining and living space in the holiday/weekend home the couple built back in 2011

ROOM SIZE 15 x 6m

DESIGNERS Annick and Stephen

jointly designed the kitchen

CABINETRY The units are bespoke, but the Linear handleless range in hi-gloss white by Metris is comparable. Kitchens start from £20,000

BUDGET Undisclosed

DESIGN SOLUTION *Annick explains...*

Can you explain the thinking behind this streamlined kitchen design?

We wanted to create an open kitchen that was welcoming, with low-maintenance warmth. As the hub of a holiday house that encourages us all to pitch in, it's detailed with an island bench and open shelving, which offers both ease of access to crockery and a display area. The long ribbed wall was designed as a structural element to hold up the highlight window above, and in turn the roof of the house. It's become the home of objects found on the beach and beyond.

Were there any design challenges?

Our biggest test was keeping kitchen clutter concealed. We achieved this by tucking a pantry

around the corner, which keeps all the produce and minor appliances out of sight, while the large appliances are integrated below benches.

Tell us about the materials and units

The walls are in tallow wood, which is native to Australia and extremely hard-wearing. All the cabinetry is custom-designed with a durable, scratch-resistant white paint finish and minimally detailed with the handles integrated to maintain visual peace. A collection of Japanese ceramics and French saucepans provides object relief.

What function does the island perform?

It was designed to invite communal activity, and is also great for cleaning produce grown in the

garden. Seating at the island serves both the casual diner and the engaged guest who wants to keep chatting to the cook.

How does the room work for your family?

Everyone cooks there – it's an all-hands-on-deck space. During summer, the house swells with family and friends who are happy to join in with both preparation and consumption. The kitchen is relaxed and unpretentious, but able to adapt to all possibilities – from a dinner party to boiled-egg and toast for one. Open shelving and a full-access pantry allow the twins to serve themselves breakfast while we sleep in. It's all about keeping it casual and helping yourself down at the beach house.

On the shelf

Plenty of open storage presents the opportunity to add colour and interest to an otherwise simple, neutral palette





Laid-back style
Part of an open-plan living and dining space, the kitchen has a clean, understated and uncluttered appeal



The details

CABINERY For similar units try Linear in hi-gloss white by Metris, from around £20,000

SURFACES Solid-oak worktop, from around £97 lin m, Broadleaf, is comparable. For a similar island worktop and splashback try 5 x 5cm Gloss White mosaic tiles, £79.24 sq m, Topps Tiles. Gallery oak flooring, £70.80 sq m, Broadleaf, has this look

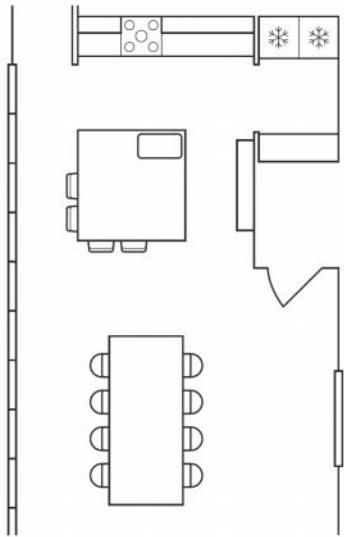
APPLIANCES For similar try a Smeg built-in single oven, £599; Bosch stainless steel gas hob, £159; Hotpoint fully integrated dishwasher, £298, all John Lewis

SINK AND TAPS Try Smeg Quadra stainless steel single-bowl sink, £242, Appliances Direct. Blanco Linus-S monobloc mixer tap in Silgranit white, £535, Ashbee and Wood, would suit this scheme

FINISHING TOUCHES The 64 bar stool by Artek, from £343 each, AmbienteDirect.com, is near-identical. House by John Lewis Watt pendant lights, £50 each, have a similar look to these ones. Find the Fritz Hansen Essay dining table, from £3,781; and Carl Hansen CH24 Wishbone chairs, £669 each, at Nest. Shop for Vitra Akari 26A pendant lamp by Isamu Noguchi, £190, at Heal's

'When you have such nice timber as this, you can't simply throw it together, you have to detail it properly'

The layout





GREY MATTERS

Fresh new cabinetry in a classic neutral shade creates a relaxed and stylish kitchen in Colin Blake and Nick Parker's characterful cottage

Feature **JO MESSENGER** Photography **FIONA WALKER-ARNOTT**

From the very first day Colin Blake moved into his picturesque Victorian cottage with partner Nick Parker, he knew the kitchen had to change. With no natural light source, rough walls and dated features, the space was dark and unappealing.

However, it took 11 years before the pair finally took action. 'We kept putting it off as we have such busy lives and knew it would be a big job,' says Colin. 'Plus, I think we lacked the

confidence as well as the time to take on such an extensive project.' Everything changed when they asked Dan Stronge, owner of Jones Britain, to visit their home to discuss knocking the kitchen and dining spaces into one.

Their main priorities were to make the space brighter, and to find a modern yet traditional design that didn't feel out of place with the rest of the house. 'Our existing Rayburn had to be incorporated as it provides heating and hot water, as well as a place to cook,' says

Colin. With Dan's guidance, the couple chose a muted grey palette for the cabinetry to complement the colour of the cooker, plus modern appliances and industrial-style pendant lighting to give the space a high-end, contemporary feel.

Introducing traditional features such as an overmantel, butler sink, and tongue-and-groove panelling also helps echo the period style of the house, beautifully balancing the scheme between the old and the new.

Pale and interesting

Painted cabinetry, softly mottled floor tiles and glass pendant shades work together to maximise light and space, while the vaulted ceiling beams, painted to match, create height and interest





Project profile

THE OWNERS Colin Blake, a senior manager for The White Company, and his partner Nick Parker, a PR manager

THEIR HOME A four-bedroom semi-detached cottage, built in 1901

THE PROJECT The couple knocked their kitchen and dining room into one open-plan space and added bespoke painted cabinetry

ROOM SIZE 7 x 4m

DESIGNER Dan Stronge of Jones Britain

CABINETRY Bespoke Coventry handpainted cabinetry by Jones Britain, £27,383, including installation

BUDGET Around £58,000, including building work

DESIGN SOLUTION *Designer Dan*

What was Colin and Nick's brief?

They had decided to have both rooms knocked into one space but couldn't picture it. They wanted a kitchen that received natural daylight with plenty of storage space, plus a scheme that was in keeping with the rest of their country cottage but with a sleek, contemporary edge and a fresh feel.

Was the Rayburn easy to fit into the scheme?

We had to design the kitchen around it and we had to look at ways of incorporating the appliance without ending up with a yellow theme. There were two key areas I had to focus on to balance it: the soft grey palette of the units helped tone down the yellow, while the floor tiles, in pale greys and beiges tie it all in.



Cook station

As well as providing additional storage space, the island houses a combination microwave oven and induction hob for when the Rayburn is not in use

Stronge explains...

Explain how you introduced more light into the kitchen?

Once the dividing wall was knocked down the whole space gained light from the French windows, side window and roof lights. However, the other end of the room has no windows and was still darker. We overcame this by installing LED lighting tape under the wall units and chimney mantel, using cool white rather than warm white to tone down the Rayburn.

How did you include enough storage?

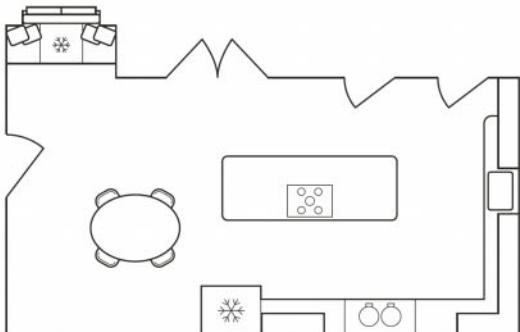
The space isn't huge, so the cabinetry layout was defined by the shape and size of the room. Including an island was paramount to the design – not only for extra storage and worksurface space but to define the cooking and dining areas. Colin and Nick wanted the option of turning the Rayburn off during the summer months and asked me to include

an induction hob, oven and microwave into the scheme as well. I suggested we include a combination microwave oven in the large island to free up extra space for more cupboards and drawers.

Tell us about the worktops

Dark surfaces can really soak up the light in a naturally shaded kitchen, so it was important to choose a material that would help reflect the light, making the space feel brighter. They didn't want a plain finish, preferring the look and texture of marble. I never recommend this material for worktops as it is so porous, so we opted for the more practical qualities of solid surfaces such as quartz. I showed them a design that had irregular veining rather than a uniform pattern so it looks more like a natural product, and curved the edges to flow with the cabinetry.

The layout



'WE WANTED TO TILE THE SPLASHBACKS BUT DAN CONVINCED US THAT IT WOULD LOOK SHARPER AND MORE POLISHED WITHOUT - AND HE WAS RIGHT'

Clever colours

Even the pale grey induction hob built into the generous island was chosen to blend in with the design and help lighten the space



The details

CABINERY Bespoke Coventry units handpainted in Limestone intelligent eggshell, £53 for 2.5 litres, Little Greene; island painted in Crown A3240K, by Jones Britain, £27,383, including installation

SURFACES Okite 1926 Crema Botticino 30mm quartz worktops and 100mm upstands, from £500sq m, including templating and fitting; metro wall tiles, £42sq m; colour-coated glass splashback, £275; floor tiles, £71sq m, all supplied by Jones Britain

APPLIANCES Combination microwave oven, £914; Flexinduction hob, £1,030; fridge freezer, £1,430, all Siemens; wine cabinet, £1,548, Liebherr, all supplied by Jones Britain

SINK AND TAP Butler sink, £352, Caple; Oberon C spout mixer tap, £311, both Perrin & Rowe

FINISHING TOUCHES Karlstad mango wood dining table, £1,185, Oka. Flynn dining chairs in Graphite

Grey, £149 for two, Made. Lovell glass pendant lights in nickel, £152 each, Jim Lawrence. Window seat cushion upholstered in Burlington Cobalt fabric, £59.50m; bolster in Sotheby Cobalt, £59.50m; cushions made in Arden Clay, £59m; curtains in Theodore Cobalt, £59.50m, all Romo at Bell House Fabrics and Interiors. Set of three wooden nesting bowls, £25; rounded wood board, £35; wooden salad servers, £18, all from The White Company

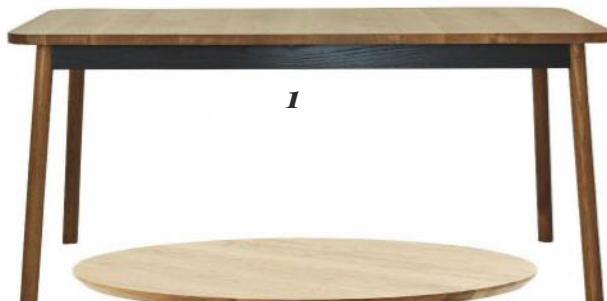


Relaxed seating

The small bay window was the ideal space for a seat, which has been cleverly designed with a wine cabinet and storage beneath

TOP TABLE

Choose one of these stylish **dining tables** for a kitchen with substance



1



3



2



4



5



6



7



8

1 A beautiful example of contemporary craft exclusively available on the high street, Another Country extending dining table, H74 x W85 x L160-210 cm, from £850, John Lewis. 2 The traditional farmhouse table has had a modern refresh, with laser-cut steel legs and a Formica surface. Tree table in solid oak, available in more than 200 colours, H72 x W90 x L180cm, from £1,244, Deadgood. 3 The Nord dining table in solid oak has timeless Scandinavian style, H74 x D120cm, £1,350, Clippings.com. 4 There's room for extra guests at this smart Suffolk oak extending table in Blakeney Blue, H76 x W90 x L150cm, from £960, Neptune. 5 Organic cracks in the timber provide rustic appeal in the Kirin Live Edge dining table in oak and steel, H75 x W90 x L224cm, from £1,299, Out & Out Original. 6 Designer Magnus Long took inspiration from cocktail sticks with the Stix table in Marquina marble, H73 x D120cm, £2,800, The Conran Shop. 7 The Victor dining table in ply and white by Alex Hellum offers designer style at high street prices, H74 x W95 x L190cm, £740, Joined + Jointed. 8 For classic Mid-Century style, look no further than the Stockholm walnut extending dining table, H77 x W90 x L175cm, £790, Fishpools.

L150cm, from £960, **Neptune**. 5 Organic cracks in the timber provide rustic appeal in the Kirin Live Edge dining table in oak and steel, H75 x W90 x L224cm, from £1,299, **Out & Out Original**. 6 Designer Magnus Long took inspiration from cocktail sticks with the Stix table in Marquina marble, H73 x D120cm, £2,800, **The Conran Shop**. 7 The Victor dining table in ply and white by Alex Hellum offers designer style at high street prices, H74 x W95 x L190cm, £740, **Joined + Jointed**. 8 For classic Mid-Century style, look no further than the Stockholm walnut extending dining table, H77 x W90 x L175cm, £790, **Fishpools**.

THE BEST DRESSED LIST

With glazing being so prominent in the kitchen, attractive **shutters and blinds** are proving to be a big draw

These shutters slide effortlessly back and forth on a smooth track system, allowing privacy and light control when needed. When not in use, the panels stack back to give a clear view. Prices for the wenge shutters shown start at £344sq m, Santa Fe Shutters



THE GROWING TREND FOR LARGE AREAS OF GLAZING that allow living spaces to seamlessly merge into the outdoors has opened up our homes, creating modern, highly liveable family spaces. In particular, kitchens that merge with the garden via large windows or expanses of folding and sliding doors have become a must-have when remodelling a home. But what to do when privacy is called for? And how to economically heat a space that has so much glass? As practical yet stylish choices for the

kitchen, shutters and blinds can shut out prying eyes, and add warmth, colour and texture to a scheme. 'Dressing your windows is important to the overall look and feel of a space, and shutters and blinds are an inexpensive way to provide both a functional and decorative feature in your kitchen,' agrees Sarah Quilliam, head of product design for Hillarys. 'They can also set the tone for the rest of your decor, making a real design statement that can change the look and feel of the room.'

BLIND TYPES

Blind designs are varied and what you buy will largely depend on window size and how overlooked your kitchen is. The main ones are:

ROLLER A neat, contemporary choice, roller blinds are usually the most affordable option. Most manufacturers will have off-the-shelf offerings in a variety of sizes, which can be easily cut to fit your window. The made-to-measure designs are also budget friendly.

ROMAN A softer option, these blinds hang flat when lowered and rise to form attractive pleats. They can be lined with blackout and insulating fabrics, but aren't the best idea for dark rooms, as the pleats at the top will always block out some light.

VENETIAN Comprising slats – usually wood or metal – that can be raised or tilted to allow in as little or as much light as required. A less expensive alternative to shutters, they give superior

insulation and light control. If opting for wood, go for blinds that are FSC certified.

VERTICAL Easy to maintain, vertical or vane blinds have come a long way from their office origins. Available in blackout and solar designs, they're a practical solution for bifold or large sliding doors, as they simply draw to one side. Choose ones without weights and chains for patio doors to avoid accidents with children running in and out.

PANEL A smart, modern choice, extra-wide panel blinds in translucent fabrics look similar to roller blinds but slide sideways rather than up and down. They can also be used like Japanese room dividers to zone areas in open-plan schemes.



Roller blinds are a great way of adding pattern and accent colour to a neutral scheme. Malmö embroidered fabric, £54m, Sanderson Home Papavera collection



Wooden blinds are equally at home in modern and traditional kitchens. Sunwood's Venetian designs come in a number of colours, including Polar with steel tapes, from £64 for a 40 x 120cm blind

SHUTTER STYLES

While they are the more expensive option, don't dismiss shutters outright. 'They can be a good investment due to their durability, style and security credentials,' says Sarah Quilliam. As well as traditional wood, there are more affordable options including polymer-coated MDF, hard-wearing vinyl and ABS – a waterproof material designed for kitchens and bathrooms. The type of shutter you choose will depend on the room and area you want to dress.

FULL HEIGHT Covering the entire window, these open as one unit, giving a clean, simple look. The slats tilt, usually via a central-pole mechanism on each panel to add/reduce the amount of light entering the room.

TIER-ON-TIER Privacy without sacrificing light can be achieved with tier-on-tier designs, which have two independently opening levels. Formed of top and bottom panels that open and close individually, they guard against prying eyes without blocking out too much light.

TRACKED As the name suggests, these shutters slide along a track and negate the

need for frames and hinges. They are particularly suitable for large areas of glass, as bifolding versions concertina back when opened to provide plenty of access, while bi-pass designs slide behind one another, similar to sliding doors.

CAFÉ Covering just the lower half of a window, these chic shutters allow light to come in at the top of the frame but prevent anyone from seeing in through the bottom.

SOLID Simple wood panels that cover the whole window will keep out light and noise but are not particularly suitable if you want your light controlled in different degrees.

DO YOUR GROUNDWORK

Window treatments are long-term investments that demand careful consideration. Meticulous planning will ensure a seamless experience, from ordering through to fitting.

FINDING A SUPPLIER

The British Blind & Shutter Association (bbsa.org.uk) is a good place to start as it has a postcode search function to find the nearest member to you. The benefit of local soft furnishings stores is that they'll be familiar with the housing stock in your area and will more than likely have made similar window treatments before. You'll also have someone experienced on hand to answer any questions and be able to browse fabrics and finishes.

ONLINE OPTIONS

Buying online and fitting yourself is a good idea for simple made-to-measure blinds, but do take measurements with care, using a metal tape for accuracy. Many companies offer a samples service where you can see the fabric before buying – Hillarys will even visit your home for a consultation. ‘Getting someone in to measure and fit can prevent expensive

mistakes and ensure a perfect fit. It also gives you the chance to match fabric to your existing furnishings and decor,’ says Sarah Quilliam.

DELIVERY TIMES

Make-up time will depend on the style, size and blind fabric, as well as the supplier. Seven to 10 days for roller blinds is usual, although Blinds-2go.co.uk offer a next-day delivery service. Roman blinds may take a little longer, depending on the availability of fabrics and linings. Four to six weeks is a common lead time from independent soft furnishing stores. Shutters take longest due to their complicated construction. Shutterly Fabulous recommend around a nine-week wait, although California Shutters supply an Express Fauxwood range, which can be ready for you to fit yourself in just two weeks. However, installation by a professional is likely to be far less stressful and is the only option from some suppliers.

NEED TO KNOW

- Translucent roller blinds are an effective choice if you're overlooked but still want to allow in light.
- When measuring for blinds, remember that not all windows in period properties will be perfectly symmetrical. So take the width and depth from several places to ensure as snug a fit as possible.
- In high-condensation environments such as kitchens, consider mould-resistant fabrics or select easy-clean wooden or aluminium Venetians.
- If good insulation is high on your wish list, then wooden blinds are a cheaper option than shutters and, if fitted correctly, are as effective at controlling the light and temperature.
- Orangeries and conservatories will benefit from solar blinds that both reflect the heat in summer and help insulate a room in winter.



Create a cool coffee-shop vibe with Shutterly Fabulous café shutters, made from FSC certified poplar. From £290sq m, including home consultation and installation



Vertical blinds are ideal for walls of glass, where several rollers or Venetians could be fiddly to open and close. These Zuma Carmello blinds from The Fabric Box have no bottom weights so are not a trip hazard. Priced from £53 for a 61 x 61cm blind

‘THINK ABOUT SLAT SIZES ON YOUR SHUTTERS – 47MM WILL LOOK GREAT ON SMALLER WINDOWS, WHILE 89MM PROVIDES A MORE MODERN FEEL’

Chrissie Harper, operations manager, California Shutters

Make a *statement*



Transform your home with made-to-measure shutters from Hillarys. Beautiful yet practical, shutters are the perfect choice for a busy kitchen environment - they're versatile, durable and available in a selection of waterproof finishes. Choose Hillarys and you'll be able to choose from a wide range of styles, including tracked shutters - perfect for dressing patio doors. To discover more about Hillarys shutters and our unrivalled service, visit us online.

HILLARYS
Make a window. Make a room.

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOUR LOCAL ADVISOR
CALL 0800 916 6538 OR VISIT HILLARYS.CO.UK

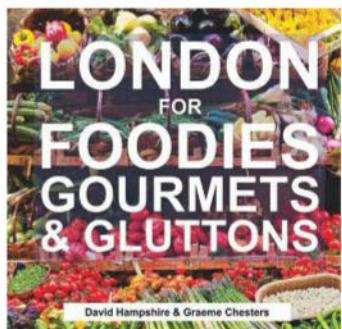
LIVING THE DREAM

BEAUTIFUL TOUCHES FOR YOUR NEW KITCHEN AND
INSPIRATIONAL ESCAPES FOR DURING THE BUILD...



TWICE AS NICE

If your plans for the summer include a trip to Norfolk, the popular Victoria Inn at Holkham has recently doubled its number of rooms to 20. The new individually designed accommodation is situated in the recently converted Ancient House – one of the oldest buildings on the estate, with great views of the nature reserve. All rooms are decorated to the same high standard and, of course, have access to the stunning bar and restaurant serving great local produce, including venison and game from the estate. From £130 for a double room, 01328 711008, holkham.co.uk



Gourmets & Gluttons along for the ride. Listing a good choice, from gastropubs, food halls, artisan producers and even cookery classes, it's published by Survival Books, price £11.99. Buy this book for £8.95, including P&P, by calling 01225 462125 and quoting BK001.

ON THE MENU

There is no shortage of great food producers, markets and cafés in London. So if you are planning a trip to sample the best, take David Hampshire and Graeme Chesters' *London for Foodies, Gourmets & Gluttons*.



TRAY CHIC

For ferrying drinks and snacks to the garden, you need a stylish tray – we've got our eye on Tori Murphy's designs. Sturdy, British made, and with geometric and chevron prints, prices start at £25. Matching linens are available, too, all at torimurphy.com

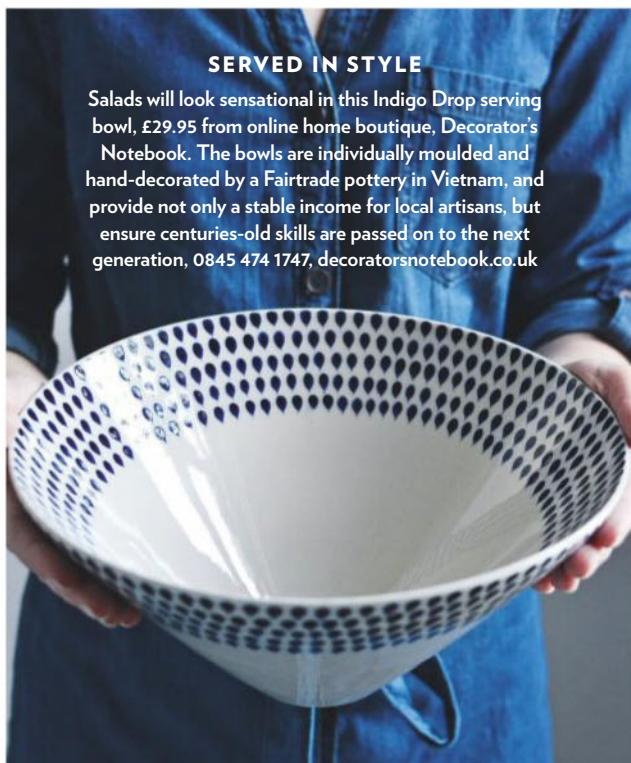
SIMPLY HEAVEN

Stepping into the Native & Co shop is like entering a serene and beautiful world where all is perfect and orderly. Specialising in stylish Japanese and Taiwanese homewares, all pieces come from small artisan suppliers, and are sublimely simple accessories for a range of kitchen styles. 116 Kensington Park Road, London W11 2PW, 020 7243 0418, nativeandco.com



Tasty morsels

A new kitchen raises the bar when it comes to cooking and entertaining, so make sure your skills are up to the job on one of Honesty Cookery School's many affordable cookery courses. Set in an idyllic barn in Berkshire, courses take place around the convivial central island and there's a great choice of classes, from sourdough baking to authentic Indian and Sri Lankan cookery. Prices start at just £40 for four hours. Book online at cookeryschool.honestygroup.co.uk or call 01635 268989.



SERVED IN STYLE

Salads will look sensational in this Indigo Drop serving bowl, £29.95 from online home boutique, Decorator's Notebook. The bowls are individually moulded and hand-decorated by a Fairtrade pottery in Vietnam, and provide not only a stable income for local artisans, but ensure centuries-old skills are passed on to the next generation, 0845 474 1747, decoratorsnotebook.co.uk



Mat finish

Useful as they may be, many placemats veer dangerously towards the fogey-ish. So we were pleased to see Ella Doran's bright new range, featuring graphic close-ups of colourful Icelandic houses. A set of six Rekki in Reykjavik mats cost £54, 020 7254 4744, elladoran.co.uk

ARTISTIC LICENCE If you find yourself in York, make time to visit the refurbished Art Gallery on Exhibition Square, YO1 7EW. A recent £8 million facelift has provided several new gallery spaces (including one outdoors), and masterpieces on show include important works by LS Lowry, Paul Nash, David Hockney, Walter Sickert, Sarah Lucas and Stanley Spencer. Another highlight is the launch of the Centre of Ceramic Art, a collection of more than 5,000 examples of 20th- and 21st-century British Studio Ceramics. The gallery reopens on 1 August with Clare Twomey's impressive towers of 10,000 identical handmade slip bowls, representing the number of hours of practice it takes to become a master craftsman. Tickets £7, children go free, 01904 687687, yorkartgallery.org.uk

WEEKEND BOLTHOLE

Now summer's here, why not escape to an old-fashioned seaside town? Albion House is a new 14-bedroomed boutique hotel, set in a Regency building in Ramsgate, Kent. It has been lovingly restored to grandeur with a blend of antiques and modern-day comforts. The hotel's Town Bar and smart dining room serving local produce are worth staying in for, while the 32 miles of sandy beaches, cliffs, and creative mix of galleries, shops, bars and restaurants will surely lure you outside. Rooms from £145, suites from £275, 01843 606630, albionhouseramsgate.co.uk





BRIGHT IDEAS The latest mini Habitat store can be found in the Discovery Park branch of Homebase in Chichester, West Sussex, offering 5,600sqft of well-designed, affordable accessories to pep up your kitchen.



WRITE ON KEW

There are many good reasons to pin hope on an Indian summer – not least, the very first literary festival at London's Kew Gardens. 'Write on Kew' takes place 24 to 28 September, with a guest list of world famous authors from all genres, including Bill Bryson, Margaret Atwood, Richard Mabey and Jacqueline Wilson. Book online at kew.org

Full of flavour

With the notoriously fickle British weather, every kitchen needs an Instant Marinator, £25.55, by Dexam. This clever little gadget creates a vacuum to help pack up to eight hours' worth of marinating flavour into meat, fish and chicken in a mere 20 minutes, enabling you to be spontaneous about when you light the barbecue. From a range of stockists, including onlinekitchenware.com, 01730 811811.



Fresh kitchen textiles for summer

AYE AYE, CAP'N

New from Cornwall, the latest additions to the Seasalt homeware collections include this nautical oven glove, £14, 01326 640075, seasaltcornwall.co.uk



EARN YOUR STRIPES

The Iconic Stripe collection takes its palette from the colours of the Aga, so fans can be sure of a perfect match, £25 for an apron, 0800 8046296, agacockshop.co.uk



GRAZE LOVINGLY

Thornback & Peel's new Cow and Buttercup print has modern country appeal. Oven glove, £27, 020 7831 2878, thornbackandpeel.co.uk



MAN OH MAN

Light the barbecue! The Man Apron is part cloth/part apron, designed to withstand heat, £24, The Wise House, 020 8941 8412, thewisehouse.co.uk



WHERE TO SHOP FOR...

Lighting helps set the tone and create the atmosphere, finishing off your kitchen design to perfection



BERT FRANK

020 8737 0512, bertfrank.co.uk

Designed in London and produced in Birmingham, all Bert Frank lights are born and bred in the UK, made to last using old-school manufacturing methods. The designs offer a modern take on Mid-Century style, with many made of hand-finished aged brass combined with matt black, petrol blue or white. Lights can also be made to a custom scale and finished in a bespoke metal and colour to suit your project.

BUSTER + PUNCH

020 7407 0888, busterandpunch.com

Showroom by appointment only:

The Hop Exchange, Suites 7-9 & 12, 24 Southwark Street, London SE11 1TY

London-based architect and industrial designer Massimo Buster Minale launched the Buster + Punch label in an east London garage in 2013. Designs are inspired by his interest in music, motorcycles and metalwork, which might sound a curious combination for a lighting brand – until you see the precision-crafted, brass pendants with rubber detailing. Look out for the new designer LED Buster Bulbs in warm gold, smoked grey and bright crystal.

CHRISTOPHER WRAY

020 7013 0180, christopherwray.com

599 King's Road, London SW6 2EL

More than 50 years ago, Christopher Wray began selling vintage lamps on London's King's

Road to his trend-setting clientele.

When it became increasingly difficult to source sufficient antique oil lamps, he began to make them himself.

Today, the company offers a wide selection of furniture and lighting, from Murano glass chandeliers to contemporary pendants, as well as a lighting restoration and rewiring service.

CURIOSA & CURIOSA

01629 826284, curiousaandcuriousa.co.uk

Visitors welcome by appointment:

The Malthouse, 13A North End, Wirksworth, Derbyshire DE4 4FG

Designer Esther Patterson creates lights that show off the pure beauty of coloured glass. Choose from five glass pendant shapes and 21 colours, and your pendant will be traditionally hand-blown for a unique result. Most of the glass is blown locally to the studio in Wirksworth, Derbyshire, and finished with fabric-twisted flex and metal fittings.

FOLKLORE

020 7354 9333, shopfolklore.com

193 Upper Street, London N1 1RQ

Danielle and Rob Reid have made simplicity into an art form at their small but perfectly formed store in Islington. A carefully curated selection of lights, chosen for thoughtful design, craftsmanship and durability, is displayed alongside seating, tables and storage, as well as homeware and gifts. And there's a complete online shopping site, so you can enjoy the offerings wherever you are.

HEAL'S

020 7636 1666, heals.co.uk

196 Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 7LQ (and branches)

Heal's dates back to 1810, when it started life as a bed-maker. More recently, it has undergone a renaissance as a place to see the best of British and international design. This is evident in its sparkling lighting showroom, which displays products from emerging names such as Dyke & Dean and Rothschild & Bickers, to established designers including Tom Dixon, Flos, Anglepoise, Kartell, Ligne Roset and Seletti.

HECTOR FINCH

020 7731 8886, hectorfinch.com

90 Wandsworth Bridge Road, London SW6 2TF

Hector Finch's cavernous 1,000sq ft emporium houses an exclusive collection of chandeliers, classic globe pendants, lanterns, wall lights, picture lights and lamps, as well as a selection from other suppliers. Fittings can be adapted or customised, or you can take in your own light fitting for restoration or rewiring.

HOLLOWAYS OF LUDLOW

020 7602 5757, hollowaysofludlow.com

121 Shepherd's Bush Road, London W6 7LP (and branches)

This Brook Green showroom is a popular destination for those wanting to see a good selection of contemporary lighting in London. Choose from leading retailers such as Flos, David Trubridge, Artemide, Jieldé, Foscarini, Verner Panton, and Secto, as well as unusual ranges from smaller international design



Dome Rise & Fall brushed steel pendants, £265 each, Davey Lighting



The polished aluminium Codie Rise & Fall pendants, £279 each, Original BTC



Each unique Box pendant is made of reused cardboard, £255; Cable lamps (below) can be customised with different cable colours and patterns, £165 each, both Folklore

houses. The brand also sells period and classic lighting, as well as bulbs, switches and cables.

JOHN CULLEN LIGHTING

020 7371 5400, johncullenlighting.co.uk
561-563 King's Road, London SW6 2EB

This showroom is devoted to displaying the power of light. Expect to see inspiring schemes and a variety of discreet, modern products designed to create effects – and it's said to be the only place in the UK where you can see every type of LED fitting in action. There's also a renowned lighting design service on offer.

ORIGINAL BTC

020 7351 2130, originalbtc.com

The Design Centre Chelsea Harbour, Lots Road, London SW10 0XE

Home to British brands Original BTC, Davey Lighting and reading lights by Beadlight. Original BTC offers a collection of hand-spun aluminium, chrome and hand-cast bone china lights, inspired by traditional factory fittings and 1940s designs. Davey Lighting takes its design cue from heritage marine lighting, offering a selection of classic weathered brass, polished copper and galvanised cast-iron fittings.

SCP

020 7739 1869, scp.co.uk

135-139 Curtain Road, London EC21 3BX (and branches)

It was 30 years ago that Sheridan Coakley set up SCP as a manufacturer and retailer of modern furniture, specialising in classic,

sought-after pieces from the Modern Movement, and producing new designs in the same spirit. Today, it remains a source of contemporary design, with an extensive collection of lighting from the likes of George Nelson and Tom Dixon – alongside furniture, textiles and rugs.

SKANDIUM

020 7584 2066, skandum.com

245-249 Brompton Road, London SW3 2EP (and branches)

The home of modern Scandinavian design in London, Skandium sells a good selection of lights by Fritz Hansen, Artek, Design House Stockholm, Louis Poulsen, Gubi, Wästberg, Secto, Le Klint and more. Simple, functional and timelessly beautiful designs are the hallmarks of the Skandium range, which is extensive – there are more than 100 pendants, plus lamps and wall lights in the range, alongside furniture, tableware and textiles.

SKINFLINT DESIGN

01326 565227, skinflintdesign.co.uk

If you are looking for reclaimed factory lighting for your kitchen, Skinflint's website is one to bookmark. It specialises in vintage lighting, sourced from schools, factories and even disused airfields from all over the UK and Europe – from 1970s German railway shades and 1960s power station lights from Scotland to 1940s British industrial fittings and Hungarian piggery lights.



TOM DIXON

020 7183 9737, tomdixon.net
Wharf Building, Portobello Dock, 344 Ladbroke Grove, London W10 5BU

Tom Dixon's pendant lights are part functional, part sculptural, and bound to catch the eye hung above a kitchen island or dining table. From the bestselling Copper Shade

to the Beat collection in matt grey, black, white and beaten brass, the designs are made from groundbreaking processes and unusual materials. Several of the lights work particularly

well hung in clusters, using the company's ceiling-mounted Pendant System.

TRAINSPOTTERS

01453 756677, trainspotters.co.uk
Units 3 & 4 New Mills, Libby's Drive, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL5 1RN

An historic woollen mill in the Slad Valley, on the outskirts of Stroud, is the characterful home of well-established industrial lighting and salvage specialist Trainspotters (named after its first product – salvaged train-luggage racks). Next to the onsite workshop, the showroom displays an extensive stock of refurbished industrial-style lights, sourced from the UK, and Communist-era fittings from the former Eastern Bloc, as well as its own-manufactured classic industrial lighting.

KITCHEN SOURCE BOOK

Useful contact details for the main kitchen companies, appliance manufacturers and fixtures and finishes for your scheme. Find this issue's extra stockists on page 128

COMPLETE KITCHEN SOLUTIONS

ADAPTATIONS 020 8942 9868 adaptations.uk.com	DESIGNSPACE LONDON 020 7487 5077 designspacelondon.com	KÜTCHENHAUS 0161 855 2743 kuchenhaus.co.uk	RENCRAFT 01732 762682 renCraft.co.uk
ALNO 01924 487900 alnokitchens.co.uk	DEVOL 01509 261000 devolkitchens.co.uk	LANDMARK 01208 73285 landmarkkitchens.co.uk	RICHARD BAKER FURNITURE 020 8336 1777 richardbakerfurniture.co.uk
BAKER & BAKER 01787 279119 bakerandbaker.co.uk	DOCA 020 3603 8835 docauk.com	LAURENCE PIDGEON 020 7610 6166 laurencepidgeon.com	ROUNDHOUSE 020 7297 6220 roundhousedesign.com
B&Q 0845 609 6688 diy.com	EVITAVONNI evitavonni.co.uk	LEICHT leicht.com	SCAVOLINI scavolini.us
BARNES OF ASHBURTON 01364 653613 barnesofashburton.co.uk	EXTREME DESIGN 0845 172 8078 extreme-design.co.uk	LEWIS ALDERTON & CO 0845 474 0854 lewisalderton.com	SCHMIDT schmidt-kitchens.com
BESPOKE KITCHEN DESIGN 0800 169 3979 bespokekitchendesign.co.uk	FIREDEARTH 0845 366 0400 firedearth.com	MAGNET 01325 469441 magnet.co.uk	SCHÜLLER 00 49 98 25830 schueller.de
BETTA LIVING 0808 149 8214 bettaliving.co.uk	GREAT BRITISH KITCHENS & INTERIORS 01959 532233 handmadekitchens.co.uk	MARK DAVID 01279 868500 markdavid.co.uk	SECOND NATURE 01325 505539 sncollection.co.uk
BOHEN 0800 862 0220 bohen.co.uk	GREEN AND FAY KITCHENS 0800 078 7723 greenandfaykitchens.co.uk	MARK WILKINSON FURNITURE 01380 850007 mwf.com	SIEMATIC 0161 246 6010 siematic.com
BRITISH STANDARD 020 7870 7688 britishstandardcupboards.co.uk	HALCYON INTERIORS 020 7486 3080 halcyoninteriors.com	MARTIN MOORE & COMPANY 0845 180 0015 martinmoore.com	SILKWOOD 01763 848853 silkwoodbespoke.co.uk
BROADWAY KITCHENS 0845 505 4404 kitchensbybroadway.co.uk	HANDMADE KITCHENS DIRECT 01202 475515 handmadekitchens-direct.co.uk	MASTERCLASS KITCHENS 01792 790088 masterclasskitchens.co.uk	SIMON TAYLOR FURNITURE 01296 488207 simon-taylor.co.uk
BULTHAUP 0844 846 7810 en.bulthaup.com	HARVEY JONES 0800 389 6938 harveyjones.com	MATTHEW MARSDEN FURNITURE 01257 450413 mmfurniture.co.uk	SMALLBONE OF DEVIZES 020 7589 5998 smallbone.co.uk
BURBIDGE 024 7667 1600 burbridge.co.uk	HIGHAM FURNITURE 0800 047 0235 higham.co.uk	MCCARRON & CO 01380 859299 mccarronandco.com	SNAIDERO 00 39 432 063111 snaidero.it
CAPLE 0117 938 1900 caple.co.uk	HOLLOWAYS OF LUDLOW 020 7602 5757 hollowaysofludlow.com	MEREWAY KITCHENS 0121 706 7844 merewaykitchens.co.uk	SOLA KITCHENS 020 3004 0898 solakitchens.com
CHALON 020 7351 0008 chalon.com	HOLME TREE 01530 564561 holmetree.co.uk	METRIS 01325 505590 metriskitchens.co.uk	STEPHEN ANTHONY DESIGN 023 9248 6478 stephananthonydesign.com
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CHISELWOOD 01522 704446 chiselwood.co.uk	IKEA 0845 358 3363 ikea.com	NEPTUNE 01793 427300 neptune.com	THE FREESTANDING KITCHEN COMPANY 01787 223297 thefreestandingkitchen.com
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CLAYTON CABINETS 01363 83615 claytoncabinets.co.uk	IN-TOTO 01924 487900 intoto.co.uk	NGI DESIGN 01780 766899 ngidesign.co.uk	TILES & BATHS DIRECT 020 8202 2223 tilesandbathsdirect.co.uk
CLIVE CHRISTIAN clive.com	JETTE KITCHENS 0113 232 3233 jettekitchens.com	NOLTE 01707 290444 nolte-kuechen.de	TOM HOWLEY 0161 848 1200 tomhowley.co.uk
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DADA dadaweb.it	JOHNNY GREY 01730 821424 johnnygrey.com	PODESTA 01494 677700 Podesta.uk.com	WOODSTOCK FURNITURE 020 8876 0131 woodstockfurniture.co.uk
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		RATIONAL 01543 459459 rational.de/en	

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BRISTAN 0844 701 6273 bristan.com	GESSI 07734 954513 gessi.com	QUOOKER 020 7923 3355 quooker.com	TEKA teka.com
BRITA 0844 742 4900 brita.co.uk	GROHE 0871 200 3414 grohe.co.uk	RAK CERAMICS 01730 237850 rakceramics.co.uk	VILLEROY & BOCH 020 8871 4028 villeroy-boch.com
CAPLE 0117 938 1900 caple.co.uk	HANSGROHE 01372 472001 hansgrohe.co.uk	RANGEMASTER 0870 789 6110 rangemaster.co.uk	WILLIAM GARVEY 01404 841430 williamgarvey.co.uk
CARRON PHOENIX 0161 436 6280 carron.com	INSINKERATOR 0800 389 3715 insinkerator.co.uk	RDO 01737 240403 rdo.co.uk	ZIP 0845 602 4533 zipheaters.co.uk
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	KWC UK 020 8675 9335 kwc-uk.com		



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[amtico.com](#)
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[ecoglaze.co.uk](#)
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[floorsofstone.com](#)
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[gecanderson.co.uk](#)
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[granitetransformations.co.uk](#)
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[naosfloors.com](#)

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 QUICK-STEP [quickstep.com](#)
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[reclaimedflooringco.com](#)
 RESILICA 01273 511564 [resilica.com](#)
 SENSO 020 8969 0183
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[steverobinsonglass.com](#)
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[stonell.com](#)
 STONE MASTERS 0800 085 3536 [stonemasters.co.uk](#)
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 WINCHESTER TILE COMPANY 01392 473005 [winchestertiles.com](#)

STOCKISTS

Contact details for all the additional companies mentioned in this issue

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alexzdankowicz.co.uk
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ANOTHER COUNTRY 020 7486 3251
anothercountry.com
APPLIANCES DIRECT 0871 984 4416
appliancesdirect.co.uk
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ARAM 020 7557 7557 aram.co.uk
ARTIFACT LIGHTING 02381 943014
artifact-lighting.com
ASHBEE AND WOOD 01737 772100
ashbeeandwoodappliances.co.uk

B BAILEYS HOME 01989 561931
baileyshome.com
BARBED 020 8878 1994 barbed.co.uk
BARKER & STONEHOUSE 0333 355 9027
barkerandstonehouse.co.uk
BEESEYE FINE ART 020 7627 6359
beeseye.com
BELL HOUSE FABRICS & INTERIORS
01580 712555 bellhousefabrics.co.uk
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bertandmay.com
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bianchifurniture.co.uk
BLINDS-2GO.CO.UK 0800 862 0464
BOFFI boffiuk.com

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0196 californiashutters.co.uk
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camillearchitectures.com
CHEVILLE PARQUET 020 7183 6352
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CROWN crownpaints.co.uk
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E EARTHBORNE 01928 734171
earthbornpaints.co.uk

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ehg-designandbuild.co.uk
EVOLINE 01225 330242 evoline.co.uk

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FARROW & BALL 01202 876141
farrow-ball.com
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FISHPOOLS 01992 636465 fishpools.co.uk
FLOCK 07756 594091 flock.org.uk
FOSCARINI foscarini.com/en

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8977 1143 germanflooring.co.uk
GLOSTER 01454 631950 gloster.com

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habitat.co.uk
HAMILTON KING 020 8995 3608
hamiltonking.com
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henryblakehardware.co.uk
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hitchmylius.co.uk

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jonesbritain.co.uk
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JOINED + JOINTED 020 7371 7766
joinedandjointed.com
JUST DOORS 01652 618932
justdoors.co.uk

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KIRKBY DESIGN 01623 756 699
kirkbydesign.com
KITCHENSINKS & TAPS 02380 580239
kitchensinksandtaps.co.uk

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870 6961 lakeland-furniture.co.uk
LAZY SUSAN FURNITURE 01243 717197
lazysusanfurniture.co.uk
LIPTON PLANT ARCHITECTS
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LITTLE GREENE 0845 880 5855
littlegreene.com
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LONDON GARDEN DESIGNER 07976
155 282 londongardendesigner.com
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07989 597264 melaniewilliams.co.uk
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metalsheets.co.uk
MINOTTI CUCINE minotticucine.it
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mjfarchitects.co.uk
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modulnova.com
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OKA 0844 815 7380 okadirect.com
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outandoutoriginal.com

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retrovius.com
ROCKETT ST GEORGE 01444 253391
rockettstgeorge.co.uk
ROMO romo.com
RONSEAL 0114 2409 469 ronseal.co.uk
ROUND WOOD OF MAYFIELD
01435 867 072 roundwood.com
RUDY & NEWMAN 020 3651 2876
rudyandnewman.co.uk
RUPERT BEVAN 020 7731 1919
rupertbevan.com
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sanderson-uk.com
SANTA FE SHUTTERS 0845 076 0109
santafeshutters.co.uk

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INSPIRED LIVING

Bespoke, hand-painted and grey, this kitchen by Tom Howley ticks all the boxes for a dream kitchen, and comes with the company's impeccable attention to detail. We love the statement island and classic elegance. Who wouldn't be happy cooking and entertaining here?

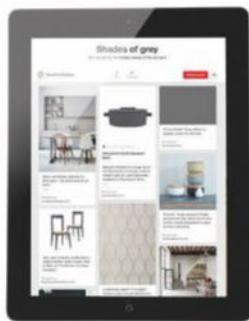
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Natural forms

Sinnerlig dining table, £250; stools, £50 each; pendant lamp, £40, all Ikea

One last thing...

August sees the launch of the eagerly awaited Sinnerlig range – a collaboration between Ikea and design guru Ilse Crawford. The collection features more than 30 pieces, from furniture and accessories to lighting and tableware, all designed to be tactile, natural and bring harmony to our increasingly busy lives. We love the simple forms in honest materials such as cork and seagrass and, of course, the fact that they are all at Ikea's fabulously affordable prices.

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